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THE LIFE

OF

RAJA RADHAKANTA DEVA BAHADUR,

WITH SOME NOTICES

OF HIS ANCESTORS,

AND

Testimonials of his Character and Learning,

BY

THE EDITORS OF THE RAJA'S SABDAKALPADRUMA.

CALCUTTA:

PRINTED BY J. M. GAUMISSE, ENGLISHMAN PRESS.

1859.

A HISTORY OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK

The history of the State of New York, from the first settlement of the Dutch in 1614, to the present time, is a subject of great interest and importance. It is a subject which has attracted the attention of many of our most distinguished writers, and which has been the subject of many valuable works. The history of the State of New York is a subject which is of great interest to all who are interested in the history of the United States.

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PREFACE.

The exemplary character, useful career, and literary fame, of our illustrious relative RAJA RADHAKANTA DEVA BAHADUR, have long inspired in us a strong desire to bring forward an account of his life and his select literary correspondence; but a variety of circumstances has hitherto prevented the accomplishment of our design.

Unequal as we deem ourselves to the task, yet, at the pressing request of several of the Raja's friends, we now partially, though with diffidence, fulfil our long cherished desire, by thus laying before an indulgent public a rapid sketch of his birth and doings, with Testimonials of his character and learning, as an Introduction to our forthcoming edition of his celebrated Sanscrit Encyclopedic Lexicon, the *Sabda-kalpadruma*.

We shall also notice some of his distinguished ancestors, and give a short narrative of his grandfather, which is intimately connected with the most eventful period of British Indian History.

We have derived the greatest portion of our materials from the family records of the Raja.

RAJA RADHAKANTA DEVA BAHADUR is descended from the ancient and considerable family of the Maulika Kayastha Devas of Chitrapura; his most remote ancestor, reckoned the first in the records of the *Ghatakas*,* was Srihari Deva, the 24th in ascent from him: his residence was in the village of Karnaswarna (Kansona) near Murshedabad. Pitambara Khan, the sixth in descent from Srihari was surnamed *Dhanya* Pitambara, because on a certain occasion, when he invited the *Ghatakas* and *Kulinas*† in an *Ekajayi*‡ which he performed, he caused a portion of a rivulet to be filled up with *Dhanya* (Paddy) to serve as a bridge for them to pass over; he received the title of *Khan Bahadur* from the then sovereign of Bengal. He had four great grandsons, viz., *Chaukhandi* Sivadasa Deva, Raya Nityananda Deva, Raya Chaturbhuja Deva, and Raya Srinatha Deva, who settled themselves in Pargana Malai, Saudapura, Talagrama, and Dhulipura, respectively. Raya Vidyadhara Deva, the ninth in descent from Nityananda Raya, removed his residence to Najara, and subsequently to Nitada in Pargana Muragacha. His grandson Devidasa *Majmuadar* was *Kanungo* of this Pargana.

Devidasa Majmuadar had six sons, of whom the fifth, Rajendra Sarkar, founded his residence in Kamarpul, and the sixth, Rukmini Kanta, settled in Pancha Grama (Panchgang) with all his relatives; the fourth Sahasraksha Majmuadar as well as Rukmini Kanta, presented themselves to the then Nawab of Murshedabad, Mahabat Jang, who allowed the former to succeed to his father's post, and appointed the latter,

* *Ghatakas*.—Genealogists, or Heralds, who keep records of pedigrees and matches, and negotiate matrimonial alliances.

† *Kulinas*.—Brahmanas and Kayasthas of certain classes established by Ballala Sena, king of Bengal.

‡ *Ekajayi*.—A ceremony in which the *Ghatakas* and *Kulinas* are invited with a view to the determination of the ranks and classes of the latter, according to definite rules.

with the title of *Vyavahartta*, manager of the estate of Kesavarama Raya Chaudhri, the minor Zamindar of Pargana Muragacha.

On the death of Rukmini Kanta, his eldest son, Rameswara Vyavahartta, was recognized as his successor, but as he made the Pargana yield to the Nawab a larger revenue than what had been derived from it under former settlements, Kesavarama was so incensed against Rameswara that when he came of age, he confined him as a prisoner in his house.

Rameswara had six sons, of whom Ramacharana Deva, the second, proceeded to Murshedabad, introduced himself to the then Raya-Rayan Chain Raya, and offered to increase the revenue of Pargana Muragacha to 50,000 Rs.; whereupon, having been appointed *Ohdahdar* (Commissioner) of Revenue of the Pargana, he released his father from confinement and revenged himself upon Kesavarama by imprisoning him in his turn.

Ramacharana quitted his abode in Muragacha, and built a house in Govindapura, the site of the present Fort William: where, having left his family, he again presented himself to the Nawab Mahabat Jang, who appointed him Salt-Agent and Collector of Hijli, Tamlok, Mahishadal, &c., in which capacity he discharged his duties so satisfactorily that he was soon after rewarded with a very high and honorable situation.

About this time Maniruddin Khan, having quarrelled with his brother, the Subahdar of Arcot, arrived at Murshedabad, where Nawab Mahabat Jang gave him a respectful reception, and appointed him Subahdar, and Ramacharana Dewan, of the Province of Catak, and sent them with a considerable force to oppose a Marhatta incursion. Starting from Medinipura, as they marched towards Catak, they left their army far behind, and were attended only by a small number of their retinue, when a band of Pin-

daris composed of four hundred horsemen rushed out from an ambuscade in the adjoining woods, attacked and plundered them, and in spite of a brave resistance, cut off the Nawab. His Dewan, after having killed a large number of the enemy with his own hand, at last fell overpowered.

Thus died Dewan Ramacharana, leaving a widow and three infant sons, Ramasundara Deva, Manikyachandra Deva, and Navakrishna Deva, who were, all of a sudden, reduced to great straits by the loss of Ramacharana's whole property, consequent upon the death of Fakhar Tojjar Khan, (alias Khwaja Wajid) a wealthy merchant of Hugli, in whose custody it was kept.

Ramacharana's widow, however, who was a very sensible woman, husbanded the scanty resources in her possession in maintaining and educating her children; she built a new house in Govindapura, her former residence having been washed away by the River.

Ramasundara, when he came of age, was appointed supervisor of Panchacuta (Pachet), and other places, and supported the family, as its head, for several years. When the lands in Govindapura were in requisition for the erection of Fort William, its inhabitants were removed with proper remuneration. The Deva family received in lieu of the Govindapura premises, lands in Arpuli, and some thousands of Rupees. Ramsundara, however, not liking the place, purchased a house and some *Bighas* of land in Sutanuti, Calcutta; this house formed the nucleus of the present stupendous Sobhabazar buildings.

Navakrishna shewed marks of a great mind; he had scarcely passed his state of adolescence, when he turned out a sound Persian scholar: he finished his education at Murshedabad.

About this time, 1756, the nobles and principal officers in Bengal were extremely disgusted with the infamous and tyrannical conduct of Nawab Serajad

dowla. Raja Rajaballabha of the Vaidya caste, the Dewan of Dacca, alarmed at the Nawab's demanding a large sum of money from him, sent off, under pretence of a pilgrimage to Jagannatha, his family and property to Calcutta, in charge of his son Krishnaballabha, who took refuge under the protection of the Company trading to the East Indies. Just at this period the English were repairing their fort in Calcutta. The Nawab wrote to Mr. Drake, the Governor of Calcutta, to deliver up Krishnaballabha, and to rase the fortifications, but he stated in reply, that if the Nawab had any demands upon Krishnaballabha, he would immediately settle them. The Nawab, however, was so incensed at this, that he wrote another letter to Mr. Drake, to the effect that if he did not at once comply with his order, he would send his troops to seize his protégé, and drive away the English from Bengal.

Mr. Drake and the other English gentlemen in Calcutta, were thrown into great perplexity at this threat, when they were assured by Rajaballabha, the Sardars and other officers of the Nawab, most of whom were Hindus, that they were highly dissatisfied with the Nawab, and were willing to assist the English; this assurance was conveyed in a letter addressed to Mr. Drake; it was despatched with great secrecy, through a Hindu messenger, with the request that it should be explained to him by a Hindu. Mr. Drake accordingly dispensed with the service of the Company's Munshi Tajaddin, and sent for a Hindu Persian scholar.

On that very day, Navakrishna had gone to Barabazar on some business, when some of Drake's men happening to know his Persian attainments, brought him to their master; he explained the letter to him, and wrote a reply to it in Persian by his direction; Navakrishna, though he was then but a youth of 16 years, performed this duty so satisfactorily, that the

Governor (Drake) rewarded him handsomely and appointed him *Munshi* to the Company.

Thus commenced the Munshiship of Navakrishna, in which capacity he displayed so much ability, that he was intrusted by Colonel Clive with the most important diplomatic missions, besides the duties which now devolve upon the Foreign Secretary. When Serajaddowla, meditating a second attack upon Calcutta, lay encamped at Amir Chand's Garden, now called Halsibag, Munshi Navakrishna was sent to him with presents, under pretence of making proposals for peace; he returned with detailed accounts of the Nawab's encampment. He was chiefly instrumental in bringing about the league between Mir Jafir and Colonel Clive, which terminated in the ruin of Serajaddowla; he subsequently settled the terms of the Subahdari agreement between them; he attended Major Adams when the war broke out with Mir Casim, rendered him essential service, and after having narrowly escaped from a body of the Nawab's plundering party, was entrusted with the charge of conducting the Major to Calcutta when he fell dangerously ill in the battle-field. He was also employed in concluding a treaty with the Emperor Shah Alam and the Nawab Sujaaddowla of Oude; he effected the settlement of Benares with the Maharaja Balwanta Sinha, and that of the Province of Behar with Shitab Ray. He was appointed Guardian of the then minor Maharaja Tej Chunder Bahadur of Burdwan and Commissioner of his extensive estate, which he saved from disorder and ruin.*

In 1765, when Munshi Navakrishna accompanied Lord Clive to Allahabad, the Emperor Shah Alam was pleased to confer on him the dignity of *Masnab Panjhazari*, with three thousand *Sowars*, and title of *Raja Bahadur*, and allowed him a *Palki Jhalar-dar*, *Tog*, *Nakkara*, &c.†

* Vide Appendix, A.

† Vide Appendix, B.

On a certain day when Lord Clive was sitting in Council, consulting on the subject of rewarding the services of Raja Navakrishna, he received a Persian letter from the subahdar of Arcot, in answer to one of His Lordship's former communications; Lord Clive desired the Raja to read and explain it to him, but he, finding the contents thereof adverse to his interests, remained silent for a few moments but soon after interpreted it freely. The letter ran to the following effect:—

“It is my wish also that, the war with the English Company having come to an end, and a treaty being concluded with them, both powers should continue on good terms; but Raja Navakrishna, who manages the Company's affairs, being the son of the late Dewan Ramacharana, the associate of my enemy Maniraddin Khan, will obstruct the intended negotiation, wherefore it would be useless to speak of peace so long as Navakrishna continued in his office.”

Lord Clive, having learnt the purport of the letter, desired the Raja to retire for a few moments in an adjoining room, where he remained for some time in great anxiety, expecting his dismissal, but His Lordship, after a short consultation, again called him in, and thus addressed him. “Why have you not informed me so long that you are descended from such a noble family? The Company have derived great benefit from your service and arduous undertakings; not knowing the rank of your family, they could not shew you the respect due to it. From this day we appoint you Political Dewan to the Company, and titles and robes of honor will shortly be bestowed upon you.”

In 1766, Lord Clive was pleased to get a *Farman** from His Majesty, Shah Alam, granting Raja Navakrishna the dignity of *Masnab Shash-hazari* with four thousand *Sowars*, and title of *Maharaja* and to bestow on him a gold medal bearing a Persian

* Vide Appendix, C.

inscription,* in testimony of his valuable services. His Lordship also presented him with Honorary robes, precious jewels, sword and shield, horses, elephants &c., and allowed a guard of sepoy to protect his gate. The ceremony of the investiture of the *Khilat* was concluded with His Lordship's conducting the Maharaja to the *Howda* of an elephant which carried him home amidst a grand procession.

The Maharaja had charge of the following Government offices, which he used to hold in his Sobhabazar buildings. The *Munshi Daftar* (Persian Secretary's office), *Arzbeigi Daftar* (Petition receiving office), *Jatimala Kachari* (Tribunal for hearing and adjudicating cases relative to caste), the Money godown or Company's Treasury, the *Mal Adalat* (Financial Court) of the 24-Parganas, *Tahsil Daftar* (office of the Collector) of the 24-Parganas. The particular locality of these buildings in Sobhabazar was formerly called Pabnarbagan: of these, the edifices on the North of Raja Nubkissen street, are now in the possession of Raja Radhakanta, and those on the south of that street, are owned by his cousins, Raja Sivakrishna and his brothers. The Natches which are celebrated there with great eclat during the Durga-Puja Holidays and which attract a large concourse of Natives and Europeans, were first instituted by the Maharaja in commemoration of the victory of Plassey, and for the reception of Lord Clive, from whom down to Lord Auckland all the Governors General of India, as well as distinguished Native Princes, Nawabs, chiefs, and nobles have graced these places with their presence.

Maharaja Navakrishna was a great patron of learning; his house was the resort of the learned Brahmanas of Bengal and of the Upper Provinces, who were invited by his kindness; the celebrated Jagannatha Tarkapanchanana and Vaneswara Vidyalkara were

* Vide Appendix, D.

the ornaments of his *Sabha*; discussions on the different topics of the *Sastras* were constantly held under his auspices, and the successful champions were rewarded with munificent presents. He spared no expense to procure copies of many valuable Sanscrit and Persian Manuscripts, and caused transcripts of them to be prepared in the first rate style of Caligraphy; hence the library which he has bequeathed to his heirs, may be deemed to be the most priceless jewel amongst his treasures.

The Maharaja presented, in addition to the old burying ground, a large tract of the adjoining land for the erection of the St. John's Cathedral; on this spot the old Magazine stood; it was then valued at Rs 45,000; he spent a very large sum of money in constructing a road called Raja's Jangal, about 32 miles in length from Behala to Culpi; he also opened the road called after him, Raja Nubkissen Street, by purchasing lands at a considerable cost.

Governor Verelst, in his View of Bengal, has borne high testimony to the Maharaja's merits as a public officer. He thus speaks of him: "Nubkissen is a Native Hindoo who had been extremely zealous in the English cause during the troubles preceding Meer-Jaffer's elevation to the Subahdaree. When the war broke out with Meer Cossim, he attended Major Adams and continued with that commander till the Subahdar was driven out of the Provinces. His address and attachment to the English, recommended him to Lord Clive, who made him Banian to the Committee,* in which office he continued three years likewise of Mr. Verelst's career."

Lord Thurlow, during the trial of Warren Hastings, thus represents him before the House of Lords:

"Nubkissen was the Persian preceptor of Mr. Hastings so far back as the year 1750, when they

* Note. "This nomination implied his being an agent for the committee in Political transactions with the country powers."

were both young men, and that he was indebted for his elevation, his present high rank and great fortune, solely to his early connection with Mr. Hastings, during whose administration he only stood inferior in point of emoluments or political consequence to Mahomed Reza Cawn."

The following extract of a letter from John Knott of the Civil Service, to the Maharaja, dated London, 29th March, 1774 will be interesting on account of its conveying some information of the persecution of Lord Clive on his return to England, and exhibiting the high esteem in which the Maharaja was held.

"The Europe ships that went to Bengal last season, would inform you of the violent disputes that we have lately had in Parliament, and at the East India House here, against almost every gentleman that has returned from Bengal for some years past. Lord Clive has been more particularly attacked and abused by Mr. Johnson's Scotch friends and their partizans, and they even carried matters so far as to endeavour to take away his Lordship's whole fortune. Cruel and scandalous as such endeavours were, these outrageous men were happily disappointed, partly by the sensible and spirited speeches which Lord Clive made in Parliament in his own defence, and partly by the support of his many active and noble friends in that house." * * * *

"You will be advised long before this reaches you, of the great changes here in East India affairs; of the appointment of a Governor General and four Supreme Councillors to superintend and regulate the Company's affairs at all the settlements in India, and of four Judges to establish a Supreme Court of Judicature in Bengal. Amongst these Judges, and the second in rank, is Robert Chambers, Esq., a gentleman of respectable character and distinguished abilities. Upon mentioning to me one

day, his having a desire to learn both the Persian and Bengali languages on his arrival in Bengal, and that he wished he could meet with a person there properly qualified to instruct him, I immediately mentioned your name, and added that as you had almost the sole direction of Lord Clive's Persian Correspondence, and a great part also of Mr. Verelst's, and acted as political Banian to them both whilst they were Governors of Bengal, I thought no man was fitter to answer his expectations in regard to those languages than yourself, if you were willing to undertake it. Besides, I told him the great advantage your conversation would be of to him, upon the general politics of Hindusthan, as well as the particular provinces thereof, from the long and intimate knowledge you have had in those subjects.

* * * As Mr. Chambers desired me to give him a letter to you, I send this under his care."

Lady Clive, in a letter dated 4th May, 1793, thus writes to the Maharaja:

"The kind attention shewn to Robert May by the worthy Maharaja Nubkissen Bahadur, have much obliged Lady Clive, the late Lord Clive's wife: she now, his widow, has an inclination to send Nubkissen a valuable print of her dear late Lord, flattering herself that such a proof of her regard will be very acceptable to him. It is still in his power to give her further proofs of his friendship, by shewing his cousins, Messrs. Henry and Edward Strachey, every civility in Bengal."

The following extracts of letters from Henry Strachey, Esq., at one time Secretary to Lord Clive, dated London, the 7th April, 1792, and 8th May, 1793, respectively, bear on the subject, and will not we hope be found uninteresting.

"My eldest son brings you this letter: he is appointed a writer, and I hope he will be an honest and a good man. As I was so well acquainted with you

when I was with Lord Clive, you would think me unkind if I did not introduce my son to you. If you can be of use to him, I am sure you will. * * *

“I am very glad that you continue grateful for the favors and honors bestowed upon you by our great and good friend, Lord Clive. * * * I remember your medal with the Persian inscription, and approve much of your preserving it in your family, “as a testimony to all India of the regard which Lord Clive and the Company had for your faithful and honest services.”

“This letter will be delivered to you by my second son, Edward Strachey, whom I hope you will favor by your advice and protection.”

Maharaja Navakrishna Bahadur, despairing of having any male issue, adopted for his son, Gopimohana Deva, the third son of his eldest brother ; a son was subsequently born to him, afterwards known as Raja Rajakrishna Bahadur; on the death of the Maharaja which happened on the 22nd Novr., 1797, the two brothers after an expensive lawsuit, divided their heritage equally amongst themselves.

Gopimohana Deva served as Dewan to Mr. John Stables, then a member of the Supreme Council ; to Brigadier General Sir James Rivet Carnac, Baronet, first Commander-in-chief; and to Sir J. Macpherson, Governor General, and acquitted himself to their satisfaction. He received the title of *Raja* and *Bahadur* from the Government, with the privilege of being attended by an armed retinue, under the administration of Lord William Bentinck, who highly loved and respected him, and often consulted with him on important questions.

He was a man of extraordinary natural parts and of great public spirit; he was a good Persian scholar, and was admired by the Panditas for his astute reasoning in discussing the most abstruse doctrines of Metaphysics and Logic ;

he delighted much in the study of Geography and Astronomy; he caused Terrestrial and Celestial globes and a map of the world, to be prepared according to the Hindu system under his immediate direction and superintendence, and left unfinished a curious machine which would have served for a permanent Calendar indicating years, months, days of the week, *Tithis* or Phases of the Moon and *Nakshatras*.

He founded the late *Dharma Sabha*; he was a great patron of learning; his hand was ever stretched to help the needy and distressed, his advice was sought by all classes of people, he was the general referee on all subjects that concerned the welfare of the Hindus and the arbiter of disputes between respectable parties; he was feared by the knave, admired by the good, and respected by all; he had such an expression of gravity as awed the most independent and audacious spirit in his presence. He had an excellent ear for music, in as much as his approbation was sought by the greatest songsters of the day; he died on the 17th March, 1836, in his seventy-third year, leaving an only son, Radhakanta Deva.

Lord Auckland on receiving intelligence of the Raja's death, sent to his son a letter of condolence, dated Barrackpore, 24th March, 1837, of which the following is an extract:—

“I can assure you that I sincerely lament for the public, and for society, the loss of so excellent a man, and for yourself that this heavy affliction should have visited you.”

Radhakanta Deva was born on the 1st Chaitra, 1705 *Saka*, at his maternal uncle's house at Simla; he very early acquired a taste for knowledge, which increased with his increasing years; by untiring application he very soon distinguished himself as a Sanscrit, Arabic, and Persian scholar, and was esteemed for his high attainments in English at a time when such an acqui-

tion by a Hindu was very rare in India. He acquired the rudiments of his English education at a school in Bowbazar, then known as Mr. Cumming's Calcutta Academy. Bishop Heber thus speaks of him in his Journal:

"I had an interesting visit this morning from Radhakanta Deva, the son of a man of large fortune and some rank and consequence in Calcutta, whose carriage, silver sticks, and attendants, were altogether the smartest I had yet seen in India. He is a young man of pleasing countenance and manners, speaks English well, and has read many of our popular authors, particularly Historical and Geographical."

His marriage was an event of great social importance, it was celebrated by his grandsire, Maharaja Navakrishna, who obtained for him with great endeavours the hand of the daughter of the then celebrated *Goshthipati* Gopikanta Sinha Chaturdhurina of Gopinagara, and thus according to the strict rules of the *Karika*,* constituted his grandson the thirteenth *Goshthipati*† from Srimanta Raya; as such he receives the first honors in every formal assembly of the Hindus on occasions of the *Malyachandana*, when a chaplet of flowers is first placed on his neck, and sandal marks are first made on his forehead.

From his ancestors, Radhakanta Deva has inherited a profound esteem for the British Government, and has laboured successfully in his sphere, to further its views and objects; he has moreover used his utmost efforts to advance the cause of Native education, and to promote the diffusion of useful knowledge amongst his Countrymen. Many of the principal Public Institutions in Calcutta owe their foundation and early prosperity to his indefatigable exertions.

In 1816, colleagued with the late Sir Edward Hyde East, Bart., he exercised his influence and used his best

* *Karika*.—Metrical laconic Formulæ of the Ghatakas.

† The chief person or President in all formal assemblies.

endeavours in establishing the Hindu College, persuading his countrymen of the advantages of a liberal English education, and assuring them, by way of inspiring confidence, that the non-interference policy in matters of religion would be strictly observed with regard to this noble Institution. As one of the active members of its managing Committee, he for many years daily attended the College, drew up its fundamental rules and in conjunction with Dr. H. H. Wilson (now Boden Professor of Sanscrit in Oxford), brought it to its most flourishing state. He was also a constant visitor and for some time Honorary Secretary of the Government Sanscrit College, of which he often conducted the annual examinations, under the direction of Government Educational Organs. On his retirement from the Committee of management of the Hindu College, the late Hon'ble Mr. Bethune as it's President sent him the following Extract from the Proceedings thereof, dated 29th June, 1850.

“Resolved that this meeting cannot allow Raja Radhakant Deva, to retire from an active share in the management of the Hindu College without placing on record, their sense of the services which the Raja has rendered to the cause of Education in India during the long period of 34 years, which has elapsed, since his first connection with the establishment of the Vidyalaya in Calcutta and they desire to express their hope, that he may be long spared in good health and vigorous old age to witness the good effects of the spread of that enlightened spirit of intelligence which he has been so instrumental in encouraging.”

On the foundation of the Calcutta School Book Society, the Natives feared to purchase books published under its patronage, lest they should contain direct attacks upon their faith; he became one of its zealous members, declared to his countrymen the groundlessness of their fears, and thus procured an introduction of its books into Native Schools and Societies.

He cheerfully accepted the post of Honorary Native Secretary to the late School Society, and strenuously exerted himself along with that excellent philanthropist, the late David Hare, to promote vernacular education in this country, by introducing order and system into the Indigenous schools, so bringing them under an active Superintendence and testing their progress by periodical examinations.

He assisted the late Gauramohana Vidyalkara the Head Pandita of the School Society in the preparation and publication of a Pamphlet called the *Stri-Siksha Vidhayaka*, on the importance of female education and its concordance with the dictates of the Sastras, encouraged the training of girls in the Indigenous schools and set an example to his countrymen by educating the female members of his own family. On occasions of the public distribution of Prizes to the students of these schools, which used to take place at his Sobhabazar residence, girls as well as boys received the due meed of their merits. He advocated, however, as he still does, the education of *respectable* native females in their own homesteads, or in those of their neighbours, under some sort of general surveillance ; he had a good deal of correspondence on the subject with the late Honorable Mr. Bethune, who on one occasion thus writes to him.

“ I am anxious to give you the credit which justly belongs to you of having been the first native of India, who in modern times has pointed out the folly and wickedness of allowing women to grow up in utter ignorance, and that this is neither enjoined nor countenanced by any thing in the Hindu Sastras.”

On the establishment of the British Indian Association in 1851, he was elected its President, and though he is now too old to take any active part in its proceedings, he never fails to offer it the benefit of his advice and suggestions.

Radhakanta Deva published in 1820, the first Bengali *Nitikatha* as also the first Bengali Spelling book or Reader, according to the European system, which was highly prized by the R. A. S. of Great Britain and Ireland, and is in many points still the model of such books now pouring from the Native Press.

As late Vice-President of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society, he used his best efforts to promote the objects of the Society, and contributed many important Papers on the Agriculture of Bengal, which were published in the early numbers of the Transactions of the Society. He prepared an English Translation of a curious Persian Work on Horticulture, which was published under the auspices of the R. A. S. of Great Britain and Ireland, as a corresponding member of which, he has communicated to it valuable informations, which have appeared in the Transactions of the Society.

His correspondence, private, public, and literary, especially with the *savants* of Europe, contains an immense variety of useful and interesting information which we intend to publish very shortly, as we entertain no doubt but that it will form a very entertaining Work.

But the high fame and celebrity of Radhakanta Deva as an author, rest upon his compilation and publication of a voluminous Sanscrit Encyclopedic Lexicon, called the *Sabdakalpadruma*; to this work he has devoted nearly forty years of his existence and a considerable portion of his fortune.

In his youthful days, when he studied Sanscrit, he attended the recitation of the *Puranas* and other *Sastras*, by learned Panditas at his house, and used to note down difficult words with their meanings in his memorandum book; subsequently he collected them with vocables from the principal *Koshas* (Sanskrit Dictionaries in metrical forms), and arranged

them in an alphabetical order for his private use: shortly after, as they formed ample materials for a lexicon, he was induced at the desire of some of his friends to publish it, as the want of it was most severely felt by all Sanscrit students; he accordingly set himself to the task; but he contemplated to make it at once a Wörterbuch, a Book of Synonymes, a Cyclopædia, and an Index to all the departments of Sanscrit Literature and Science.

This was indeed an Herculean labour, requiring a Job-like patience, extensive erudition, and an immense outlay. He was not however appalled, he was resolved, and on he went with his work, toiling from day to day, procuring copies or transcripts of Sanscrit manuscripts, poring upon the contents of his rich library, and discussing knotty points with the Panditas who often frequented his house, or attended his *Sabha*: he established a Press at his own house, and caused a set of types to be prepared which have since passed under the designation of Raja's types. The first volume appeared in 1822, and as his studies increased and researches extended, the subsequent volumes were more and more enriched. The seventh or last volume was published in 1852, and the Appendix, which constitutes a separate volume, in 1858. As each volume issued from the press, he took pleasure in distributing it gratis amongst those, who expressed a desire to make use of it. He has lived long enough to reap the reward of his toil, in finding his work become the theme of universal admiration; it has been eulogized in Philological journals in unmeasured terms, and is eagerly sought after by the Panditas of India and the *savants* of Europe and America. The principal Societies of Europe and America have been eager to enrol the name of its author in the list of their Honorary Members, and Princes have taken delight in honoring him with the most distinguished marks of their approbation.

In 1835 Radahkanta Deva was requested by the Government, to be a Justice of the Peace and an Honorary magistrate of the Metropolis;* he accepted the post and for many years zealously and faithfully discharged his duties, and assisted his colleagues by his advice and suggestions.

In 1837, the Governor General in Council invested him with a *Khilat* or robe of honour, jewels a sword and shield, and conferred on him the title of *Raja* and *Bahadur*. The late Sir William Hay Macnaghten, then Secretary to the Government of India, writes to the Raja in his official letter dated the 10th July, 1837, "that the Governor General in Council has been pleased to confer this honor on you in consideration of the dignity of your ancestors, the high character for probity and learning you bear among your countrymen, and the laudable anxiety you have ever displayed to render your services useful to the public. The title of Raja and Bahadur which His Lordship in Council has been pleased to confer upon you, will accordingly be notified in the official Gazette, and will be accompanied by the usual marks of distinction."

In 1842, the Raja made a pilgrimage to Gaya where he interchanged civilities and presents with the Raja of Tekari; on his way he attended the Durbar of the Nawab Nazim of Murshedabad and received from His Highness honorary presents.

Towards the middle of 1848, a tremendous storm burst upon the head of the Raja, from which he was saved only by his innocence and the mercy of a kind Providence. We allude to the trial of the Raja in the Serampore Joint Magistrate's Court, of which the following is a brief account.

Strange thought it may seem, the Raja, the gentle, the peace-loving Raja, had an enemy, the only one he had in the world, this was no other than the late

* Vide Appendix,

Munshi Vaikuntha natha, a man who had gained a wide notoriety from his having been a first-rate rioter, and from his bold defiance and ingenious evasion of the law. This man having fallen into arrears of rent, in the farming of a Taluk which he had held of the Raja upon a Patni tenure, he (the Raja) was obliged to cause a public sale of the grant in satisfaction thereof, on which ground the Munshi broke with him, and studiously devised every possible means of working him annoyance, by having recourse to the most violent measures, reckless of consequences, and insensible to disgrace.

The Raja, who was constituted in his own person a guardian of the peace, and has always been earnest in seeking legal protection from violence and intrigue, adopted the only legitimate means of arresting these evil doings in submitting complaints to the proper authorities who, by the exercise of stringent measures, for the most part placed a check upon the malpractices of the Munshi, though not so thoroughly as to prevent occasional outbreaks, or give assurance of permanent security.

The Raja made appeals to the Supreme Government itself on this head, praying for the enactment of a law the provisions of which, might bring within the scope of justice, not simply the actual perpetrators of an outrage, but the greater delinquents who stimulate such wretched instruments into activity.

The Munshi who was ever ready to soil the character of the Raja, and who was well known to the authorities as a notorious rioter, succeeded in concocting a hideous conspiracy by subornation of perjury, and by working on the credulity of a youthful magistrate, whereby he heaped upon the Raja a degree of disgrace which his age and innocence and his well known reverence to the laws, never merited.

On the 11th of July, 1848, there occurred an affray, attended with loss of life of two persons, and wound-

ing of others in a village under the magistracy of Serampore, originating from the rival claims of two parties (one of which was the Munshi, and the other a perfect stranger to the Raja) to a certain share in the farming of the same village.

The Munshi, who was proved to have been the first aggressor, and the prime mover of this outrage, sought to implicate the Raja in this shameful affair by setting on foot a terrible machination and finding ready agents for the consummation of his nefarious purposes, with the double view of escaping punishment and gratifying revenge.

Representations were so cleverly made, and plans so skilfully laid, that functionaries of great experience and of high and established character, who highly esteemed the Raja, arrayed themselves in no ordinary strength against him; into the ears of the highest authority (Lord Dalhousie, then fresh from England), the venomous allegations of the conspirators were poured, and the prosecution began with an unprecedented animosity and rigor. On the strength of the deposition of a few affidavit-men picked out by the Munshi from the dregs of the people, the then Joint-Magistrate of Serampore issued a writ summoning the Raja to appear before him on the 11th August, exactly one month after the occurrence. The Chief Magistrate of Calcutta, at the requisition of the superintendent of Police, L. P., caused the Raja's house to be surrounded by a strong muster of constabulary force, as if he had been a felon stained with the blackest crime, and whom no measure, save that of force, could overtake.

A continuance of previous indisposition prevented the Raja's repairing to Serampore before the 18th August, when he furnished bails for his attendance before the Magistrate. The hearing of the case was postponed till the 24th of the same month, when the Raja again went to Serampore, accompanied by

his legal advisers, and several gentlemen of the greatest respectability, both Native and European, who had the power of proving his absence from town, and retirement to his Villa of Sukhachara (where it is his wont annually to sojourn during that season of the year), on the day when, according to the declaration of the suborned witnesses, he was represented to have directed a band of armed men to proceed to Manoharapura for the express purpose of a collision with those of Vaikunt'hanatha: the depositions of three or four of these gentlemen only were taken, although the Joint-Magistrate had been made aware that many more were in attendance; however that officer expressed himself "*satisfied*," and the evidences, having entered into their recognizances, the Raja and his party were permitted to return to Calcutta. It should be mentioned that on claiming the privilege of every accused party to sift and test the integrity of the accusations by cross-examination of the witnesses for the prosecution, it was denied to the Raja on the ground of non-necessity if he could exculpate himself by the weight of the testimony he was able to produce, and its uselessness in case he could not. The Joint-Magistrate avowed to the Counsel, he was satisfied, after questioning but a very few of the witnesses, the whole undeniable tendency of whose testimony was the establishment of an *alibi*, without the slightest room for question on the fidelity of their statements. Two or three weeks were suffered to elapse, and the Raja was lulled into a conviction that limited as the Joint-Magistrate had made it, his refutation was considered complete, when he was suddenly, and just before the commencement of the Durga Puja Holidays, summoned to attend the Court, and without further enquiry or attempt at identification, confined in a room standing upon the compound of the dwelling house of the Magistrate. Bail was

offered to the extent of any sum, but it was refused: the most respectable and independent local papers burst forth in one tone of indignation, and the committing Magistrate himself betrayed, in his official letters, his fear of being dragged to the Supreme Court. Nothing was then left but application to higher authority, namely the Nizamat Adalat, by the order of the Judges of which Court, the Raja was, after an incarceration of three days, enlarged on security till trial before the Sessions Judge. The late Sir Robert Barlow, who passed the order, animadverted strongly on this iniquitous proceeding, and on the abuse of a discretionary power in the hands of inexperienced Magistrates, whereby the accused is visited with some of the punishments of the guilty, before guilt itself was proved.

Two of the regular Sessions Judges successively declined to undertake the trial (perhaps for the large amount of extra-judicial influence, which was mixed up with it) when happily for the cause of Justice, Robert Torrens Esq., who was the Cato of the Civil Service, was appointed Special Sessions Judge to try the case. He commenced the trial at Hugli on the 19th October; swayed by no other reflection than that of performing his duty, he put aside all extraneous influence, and resolved to try the case on its own merits, as they appeared to him in the course of enquiry. After a laborious investigation of 37 days, conducted with unflinching patience, powerful penetration, and imperturbable determination, he completely unravelled the skein of a complicated and infamous conspiracy, disentangled a thick tissue of perjury and prevarication, commented on and reported to, the Judges of the Sadar Nizamat, the illegalities in the committing Magistrate's proceedings, sentenced one of the perjurers to imprisonment with irons, and on the 26th of November, pronounced the honorable acquittal of the Raja, who, during the

whole period of the trial, had been obliged to attend the court from 9 in the morning to sometimes night-fall, and sat there with unruffled calmness, and with a dignity which conscious rectitude inspires. On hearing the decision of the judge, he rose up and complimented him by repeating the following couplet from the celebrated Persian Poet Sadi in praise of Nushirwan, bowed and retired quietly as usual.

زنده است نام فرخ نوشیروان بعدل
گرچه بسی گذشت که نوشیروان نداند

“The blessed name of Nushirwan survives, for justice: although ages have passed since Nushirwan was no more.”

The spacious court was filled to excess and there was an immense gathering of all classes of people including the Government functionaries of the Station, in the adjacent streets and squares; as soon as the people heard the glad tidings, they broke their breathless silence and raised up shouts of joy and prayers to the Deity. This decision has most impressively taught us that our interests must always be safe so long as our actions are governed by probity. We cannot help quoting here the Sessions Judge's remarks on the case, from a letter addressed by him to the late Court of Directors, on the Judicial and Revenue Administration of Bengal, in 1853; which was published in the *Englishman* of the 14th November 1853.

“I think I am warranted in saying, that the interference of the Government sometimes improperly takes place in our Criminal Courts in India, in a manner inconsistent with justice, being the result in those cases in which it has been exercised. I have already shewn how such interference has been exercised as regards the Civil Courts in Chittagong,

where the Government took upon itself to set the decision of the Suddur Court at naught, and assumed the power of executing a decree of the Civil Court according to the Government interpretation, and in conformance to its own interests. Besides the case of Jootee Persaud, already referred to, I may quote further the case of the Government *versus* Raja Radakant Deb, his son, and others committed for affray attended with loss of life, and tried in the Hooghly Sessions Court, at the end of 1848, or the beginning of 1849. Somehow or other, this occurrence excited the serious consideration and displeasure of the Governor-General, then only recently arrived. By his Lordship's orders, a letter* was written to the superintendent of police regarding the case; a copy† was also, by his Lordship's orders, forwarded

* "This letter is dated the 26th of July, 1846. It contains orders that a copy of it was to be sent to the local authorities, and the Judges who tried the case, had thus an opportunity of knowing the Governor's sentiments; to quote the words of the letter from the copy, the Judge became aware of the "great interest his Lordship takes in the case." That interest had not much weight in the decision, but the conveyance of its expression was a great mistake. It is not intended here to say that a copy was directly sent to the Judge, but the copy received by the committing Magistrate was sent to the Sessions Court with the Magistrate's proceedings and papers."

† An eye-witness, well competent to describe what took place in the Magistrate's Court after the issue of the Governor's letter, thus wrote; the letter was written after the Rajah's acquittal by the Sessions Judge, and is dated the 3rd of March 1849:—"I was at Serampore every day that the Rajah and his son were there, so I can answer your questions from my knowledge of the facts. The witnesses for the prosecution were never confronted with the Rajah or his son in the Magistrate's Court, nor was any opportunity of cross-examining them afforded. The depositions of those who had spoken against the Rajah and his son, were read aloud, one occasion, in the presence of the accused. On the next day of attendance the Raja's witnesses were produced, and some of them examined. This was in pursuance of an order to that effect. The magistrate then remarked that a strong case for the defence had been made out, and that it was not necessary for the Rajah or his son to attend again until officially required. About a fortnight afterwards they were required to attend, and did attend (with their advisers) accordingly. On this occasion the Magistrate, without further preface, announced his intention to commit. I applied for leave to see and cross-examine the witnesses, saying that I had been utterly taken by surprise. This application was refused on the ground that it was too late. The result was that up to the date of commitment, neither the Raja nor his son, nor the legal advisers questioned, or even saw a single witness for the prosecutions."

to the Magistrate, within whose jurisdiction the affray took place; the Rajah and his son were eventually committed for trial in the Sessions Court. I think in this case, that if the Magistrate had had nothing to do with the Police, he would not have sent a copy of the Governor-General's letter. The case against Rajah Radakant Deb, was founded (which did not forcibly appear to the Magistrate,) on the worst evidence; given by witnesses with whom neither he, nor his son, were confronted in the Magistrate's court, nor had they, or their advisers, an opportunity of hearing the witnesses give evidence, or of cross-examining them. As a matter of course, the two prisoners, committed for trial under such circumstances, were acquitted by the Judge after a most tedious trial, and after the Rajah had undergone much and undeserved anxiety and indignity."

Shortly after this trial, congratulatory letters to the Raja arrived from all ranks and classes of people both Europeans and Natives; Sir Herbert Maddock, Kt., the then Deputy Governor of Bengal, in an epistle dated 14th January, 1849 thus writes to him. "I wish you would call upon me to-morrow or the next day. You have had my sympathy in your late misfortune, and I wish to congratulate you on the honorable acquittal which you have received." In 1856, Lord Dalhousie who had, by this time, acquired experience and obtained ample opportunities of knowing the Raja, showed him considerable respect on the occasion of the reception of Lady Canning, when leading him by the hand, he recommended him in very high terms to his successor, Viscount Canning.

As an instance of retributive justice, we may state that Vaikunt'hanatha Munshi was caught in one of his nefarious doings, and to escape punishment from the Company's Court, he has died a voluntary exile in the French settlement of Chandernagore, confessing,

it is said on his death-bed, that his calamities were the visitations of heaven for the pain he had given to an innocent and venerable old man.

The Raja is now in his seventy-sixth year, and enjoys a remarkably sound health, the result of a virtuous life, and of what may almost be called a clock-work regularity in all his doings; an ardent passion for knowledge and a love of truth, order, simplicity, neatness, and cleanliness in every minutiae, have always characterised his life. He has from his earliest years acquired a habit of observation, and of recording its results as well as the important events of present or by-gone times, that anyhow come to his notice; being by natural inclination no less than principle wholly devoted to whatever is truly religious, useful and praiseworthy, during his entire career, he has always tried to shun worldly cares; up to an advanced age, while his wise father superintended the affairs of the family Estate, he found ample leisure to indulge in his noble propensities, and since his death he has devolved this task upon his sons. So long as he could give play to his active energies, he was to be seen moving about in learned Societies, forming schemes for the mental advancement of his countrymen, lending his prestige in every useful undertaking, and seeking opportunities to enlighten his own mind by his constant attendance at the experiments in the Medical College, the evening lectures on Natural Philosophy at the late Hindu College, or diverse scientific exhibitions at the houses of his European friends:—he used very often to beguile his afternoons at the Botanic Garden to hear the lucid explanations of the wonders of Botany, from his most intimate and erudite friend, the late lamented Dr. N. Wallich.

As an illustration of the active tendency of his mind we quote here the fine sentiments expressed by him in a speech which he delivered at a Public Meeting of the native community held at the Town

Hall, on the 29th July 1853 on the occasion of the last renewal of the Company's Charter.

“We should strain every nerve and use all our energies in promoting the welfare of our country. The time for exhibiting this energy has now arrived, and we should not let slip this opportunity without turning it to our best account.”

उद्योगिनं पुरुषसिंहमुपैति लक्ष्मी-
दैवेन देयमिति कापुरुषा वदन्ति ।
दैवं निहत्य कुरु पौरुषमात्मशक्त्या
यत्ने कृते यदि न सिध्यति कोऽत्र दोषः ॥

“Fortune attendeth that lion amongst men who exerteth himself. They are weak men who declare fate the sole cause. Subdue fate and exert human strength to the utmost of our power; and if when pains have been taken, success is not obtained, in whom is the blame?”

Although he is a strict adherent of the esoteric doctrines of Hinduism, he is tolerant to the faith of others; he believes and has often declared it openly, that whatever may be the different outward forms of religion amongst the different nations of the earth, they all worship in effect the one and the same God; that a sincere and strict observance of the doctrines of morality, combined with a firm belief in an All-wise, All-powerful and All-merciful Deity, cannot but lead to ultimate happiness.

So complete is his resignation to the will of Providence, that from what we know by our own experience and have heard from our seniors, the equanimity of his mind has never been observed to have been disturbed by the frowns or smiles of fortune. The self-imposed routine of his life has never been changed; during four-fifths of a century he has stood the

test of many severe trials, public and domestic, only to find additional triumph from the ordeal. Never perhaps was this noble characteristic feature more strikingly apparent than on the occasion of the late trial, though he appeared in a Mufussil Court for the first time in his life, on a charge which aimed at his liberty, honor and perhaps life itself, and which was aided by circumstances we have already related; yet he showed himself the same man at his lodging in Hugli, as when sitting on his Masnad at his Sobhabazar residence: he, never for a moment, troubled his head about his fate, conscious innocence bore him up; he attended to his usual duties, correcting even the Proof-sheets of his Lexicon, a task which he set himself to, even in the chamber of his confinement. His face wore the same expression (excepting a momentary flush) of philosophic dignity and composure when he heard the sentence of imprisonment pending trial at the Sessions, from the Magistrate, as when he received the order of his honorable acquittal from the Sessions Judge. He has exhibited himself to the world.

“As one in suffering all, who suffers nothing;”

“A man, who fortune’s buffets and rewards”

“Has ta’en with equal thanks.”

The urbanity of his manners and the suavity of his disposition cannot fail to be remarked by his most casual visitants, while those who cultivate his acquaintance find in him the most agreeable companion. Sir Lawrence Peel, late Chief Justice of Calcutta, in answer to an address presented to him by the natives of the metropolis in 1855, thus speaks of him. Our “excellent friend who read the address, I have known now for many years, he is a fine specimen of the native gentleman, and his manners are a model of

propriety for us all." We cannot help quoting here the concluding lines of an article written by a most worthy Revd. gentleman on the grand Ball of the Raja in celebration of Her Majesty's assumption of the Government of India, which appeared in the *Englishman* of the 20th October 1858, as they hold forth the very picture of the Raja's Social deportment "Peacefully and kindly welcoming his guests, the kind old Raja, in plain white muslin, moved amidst it, all like a benediction."

The Raja has always preserved an unblemished character, maintained an unimpeachable conduct, and earned golden opinions. A Nestor in years and learning, his vigorous age is adorned with laurels, and he stands forth pre-eminently great as a literary character, and good man amidst the generations of the 19th century, while within the domestic circle, he reigns a venerated patriarch over a numerous family, receiving in all its fullness both homage and love, and bestowing in return the blessings of his counsel and his great example.

APPENDIX.

Testimonials of the character and learning of Raja Radha kanta Bahadur.

Sir Hyde East, Chief Justice, has very great pleasure before he leaves India, in stating the high regard and estimation in which he holds Baboo Radhakant Deb, the son of a worthy and respectable father, Gopeemohun Deb; he has had the benefit of their assistance upon several interesting occasions calculated to promote the general good and advancement of their countrymen, and he has always found them both to be men of the highest probity and of sound good sense. Radhakant is also a considerable scholar and is now engaged in compiling a very learned work. I quit these two most worthy men and my friends, with much regret, and I recommend them both to the protection and esteem of my successor.

Calcutta 1822.

Extract of a letter from Sir Hyde East, dated London, 16th July, 1828.

Among those friends, there is none who stands higher in estimation than yourself and your good father, and I feel myself greatly obliged and amused by your kind correspondence, and whenever you communicate to me any information which may materially affect the feelings and interest of yourselves and countrymen knowing as I do your own good sense and prudence, and your rectitude of principle and conduct, I take care to forward your communication to one or other of the King's ministers for their consideration.

Extract from Bishop Heber's Journal, 1824.

"He (Raja Radhakanta) lives a good deal with Europeans, and has been very laudably active and liberal in forwarding, both by money and exertions, the education of his countrymen. He is Secretary gratuitously to the Calcutta School Society, and has himself published some elementary works in Bengalee."

*Extract of a letter from Sir Charles Edward Grey
Chief Justice of Calcutta, dated Garden Reach
13th July, 1832.*

To yourself personally, you know, I have always entertained the sentiments of respect which as one of the ablest and most intelligent of the Hindu community, one of the highest in family and most respectable in conduct, you are justly entitled to; and with which you are regarded by the members of the British Government.

*Extract of a letter from J. R. Colvin Esq., dated
Govt. House, 23d Nov. 1836.*

Lord Auckland desires me to thank you for your note of the 10th instant, and to say that it gives him much pleasure to find that the new opportunity which he has sought of evincing his interest in literary and scientific pursuits, should have afforded satisfaction to a gentleman of your known intelligence, respectability and influence amongst your countrymen.

*Extract of a letter from Sir W. H. Macnaghten
Bart. dated Cabool, 1837.*

But wherever I may be, you may rest assured that I shall never forget my native friends, amongst whom I shall always be proud to reckon you.

*Extract of a letter from Dr. N. Wallich, dated
Military Club House, 31st March, 1846.*

Never can I forget you, my dear Raja; never can my sentiments of the highest respect and admiration for your profound learning, your virtues and illustrious character, suffer any diminution.

— — —
Do. Dated London, 19th October, 1852.

I have acted towards you on this occasion (as on all others), in a manner that will prove the high estimation in which you are held by all who have the happiness of knowing you, or your noble works, both in India and elsewhere.

— — —
Do. Dated London 24th March 1853.

To be praised by one so highly and universally in the hearts and minds of men as you are, my dear Raja, a *laudatissimo laudari*, is indeed an honor, of which any mortal may feel proud. The best portion by far of my life (nearly 40 years) has been spent in your glorious country. You have witnessed my doings since the time when both you and I were young men—and I do prefer your good opinion of me beyond that of all living, and it will, I know gladden your heart to know that your approval has exceedingly gladdened and flattered mine and at a time when long continued indisposition rendered such a balm tenfold sweet.

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*Extract of a Letter from Sir Alexander Johnston,
Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence of
the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and
Ireland, dated 4th July 1828.*

In the Report which I made to the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland at it's last anniversary meeting, I felt it to be my duty to call the attention of the members to the very valuable

informations which you had communicated to them in your letter of the 20th May, 1827.* I have now great pleasure in informing you that, on my proposal, the Society have unanimously elected you a corresponding member, and that as a peculiar mark of their respect, they have sent you a copy of their Transactions.

I have always been anxious, both whilst I was President of His Majesty's Council in Ceylon, and ever since I have been Vice President of the Royal Society in England, to take every opportunity of making the public in this country aware of the capacity of the people of Asia, if properly encouraged, for the acquisition of the highest literary attainments, and the policy of employing their talents in the improvement of their country, and in the promotion of their own prosperity.

I feel particularly gratified by the proof which your letter has afforded the Society, of the correctness of the opinion which I have always entertained upon the subject, and I shall by the present opportunity forward to the Governor General of India, a copy of the enclosed Resolution, in order that he may be aware of the high respect which the Society entertains for your talents, and that he may promote, by such means as he may think proper, the literary pursuits in which you are engaged.

Extract of a letter from Sir A. Johnston Chairman, Sir G. Staunton Deputy Chairman, W. Ainslie and T. Hardwick, Members, of the R. A. S. dated 2nd September, 1830.

Classing you with those enlightened persons, who view with interest and complacency any attempt

* This letter shews on the authority of the Agni Purana that the division of a Day into 24 hours is of Sanscrit Origin; it is to be found in the Appendix No. III P. lxii. to the transactions of the R. A. S., Vol. II, and in Rickard's India Vol. II. P. 306; in this latter work the author cites it as a "practical proof of what the Natives of India are capable, when their moral powers and influence are judiciously directed and applied."

towards the advancement of science or the diffusion of useful knowledge, we hasten to apprise you of our formation, while we venture to solicit your powerful aid and active co-operation towards effecting the objects of the Society's research.

Extract of a letter from Captain H. Harkness Secretary to the R. A. S., dated—April, 1834.

In conclusion I have only to express the confidence with which the Council relies on the tried and acknowledged zeal invariably displayed by you in the promotion of the views of the Royal Asiatic Society.

Extract of a letter from Professor Eugene Burnouf, Secy. to the Asiatic Society of Paris, dated 5th May, 1835.

I feel great pleasure in announcing to you that the Council of the Asiatic Society has enrolled you as a member, upon my proposition, which was supported by Dr. Mohl, one of the Members of the Council. You have been for a length of time nominated to become an Honorary Member of the Society, and the Council was not ignorant of the great services you rendered to Indian literature by the publication of your *Sabdakalpadruma*, a real philological, and religious treasure of India.

Extract of a letter from Charles Rafn Secretary to the Royal Society of Northern Antiquities at Copenhagen, dated 18th October, 1843.

The committee for investigating the ancient relations of the Scandinavians with Asia, wishing to promote zealously the attainment of its prescribed object and having represented to the President and Directors how desirable it would be for the Society

to number amongst its members, a gentleman whose character and pursuits alike entitle him to whatever testimony of esteem and respect, we have it in our power to offer, the Directors have accordingly, at their meeting held this day, resolved on requesting your permission to enrol your name on the list of members at the next General Meeting.

Do. Dated 28th April, 1846.

As a Secretary of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, I have the honor to announce that you have, at the General Meeting held this day, been unanimously elected a fellow and Founder of our Society.

I am at the same time directed to transmit the Society's laws and Memoirs along with the Diploma.

Extract of a letter from James Hume, Esq., Hony. Secy. to the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India, dated 8th January, 1845.

At a General Meeting, held this day, you were elected Vice President of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India.

Extract of a letter from H. Woodrow, Esq., Secretary to the Vernacular Literary Committee, dated 13th August 1852.

By a unanimous decision of the vernacular Literature Committee you are respectfully requested to allow your name to appear as an Honorary Member of their body since the privilege of asking your advice in directing the compilation of works most suited to the native mind will be most beneficial to the people of Bengal.

Extract of a letter from Professor Edward E. Salisbury, Corresponding Secy. to the American Oriental Society, dated 21st May, 1853.

I have the honour to inform you that at a Meeting of the American Oriental Society, held in Boston, on the 18th instant, you were elected an Honorary Member.

Extract of a letter from His Excellency W. Oxholme, Minister to His Majesty Frederic VII. King of Denmark, dated 10th May, 1854, Danish Legation.

The undersigned Minister to H. M., the King of Denmark to the Court of St. James, has been charged by his gracious Sovereign to transmit to the learned Radhakanta Raja Bahadur, the accompanying royal medal,* *pro meritis* as a token of the sincere acknowledgement, and the high value placed by His Majesty upon the esteemed gift of two copies of the interesting and elaborate work called the Sabdakalpadruma, conferred by the author upon His Majesty's own, and the University's library, in Copenhagen.

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Extract of a letter from A. Grote Esq., Secy. to the Asiatic Society of Bengal, dated 13th March, 1855.

On the motion of the Council, you were nominated for ballot at an ordinary meeting of the Society held on the 3rd Feb. last, and that at the ordinary meeting held on the 7th instant, ballotted for and duly elected an Honorary Member.

* This Medal is of pure gold and of beautiful workmanship, it bears on the obverse the head of His Danish Majesty and on the reverse the words, *Pro meritis* over the image of the genius of science holding a laurel wreath, it is attached to a chain of the same metal most exquisitely worked and composed of links which are alternately FVII and a crown, it was sent to the Raja through the late Court of Directors.

Extract of a letter from the Secy. to the A. S. of Bengal, dated 19th June, 1855.

I have the pleasure to send herewith an Urkunde or diploma from the German Oriental Society, which has only just reached me from our London Agents. It appoints you a corresponding member of the above Society.—

—

Extract of a letter from A. DeMiddendorf, perpetual Secretary to the Imperial Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg, dated 14th January, 1857.

L'Academie Impériale, des Sciences de St. Petersburg jalouse de vous lémoigner la haute estime qui lui inspire la protection eclairec et liberale, accordée par votre. Altesse á l'avancement, des sciences, vous a proclamé dans su seance solennelle du 29 Decembre, 1856, son membre honoraire.

TRANSLATION.

The Imperial Academy of Sciences of St. Petersburg anxious to testify to you the high esteem with which the enlightened and liberal protection accorded by your Highness to the advancement of the Sciences has inspired it, has proclaimed you at its solemn session of the 29th December, its Honorary Member.

—

Extract of a letter from Dr. Albrecht Weber, a Member of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Berlin, dated 26th March, 1858.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Royal Academy of Sciences, yesterday, on my proposal, elected you, as an Honorary Member, on account of your merits as Authcr of the Sabdakalpadruma. It is one of the highest honors, our Academy can invest with, for the number of the Honorary Members very small and restricted.

DIPLOMA.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND.



LONDON, MAY 17TH, 1828.

THE

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

OF

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

HAVE THIS DAY NOMINATED

BABOO RADHAKANT DEB

A

CORRESPONDING MEMBER

OF THEIR SOCIETY,

**As an acknowledgement of the valuable
information which they have received
from him**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF

This Diploma is transmitted to him

CHARLES WATKIN WILLIAM WYNN, *President.*

H. T. COLEBROOKE, *Director.*

WILLIAM HUTTMAN, *Actg. Secretary.*



MEMOIRS

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND
ASTATIC SOCIETY OF PARIS.

MEMOIRS OF THE

OF

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

La Société Asiatique de Paris a été fondée le 25 Mars 1822, par un décret du Roi, sous le patronage duquel elle a été constituée. Elle a pour objet de réunir les hommes de lettres et de science, de tous les pays, qui s'occupent de l'étude de l'Asie, et de leur offrir un lieu de réunion pour discuter leurs travaux et les faire connaître.

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DIPLOMA.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF PARIS.



SOCIETE ASIATIQUE.

La Société Asiatique jalouse de s'assurer le concours des personnes éclairées et se conformant à l'art. 1^{er} du titre 2 de ses statuts approuvés par ordonnance Royale, en date du 15 Avril 1829, a dans sa séance du 2 Mars 1835 et sur la présentation de M. M. *Eugene Burnouf* et *Julius Mohl* Membres de la Société accorde le titre de Membre de la Société Asiatique à **Monsieur RAJA RADHAKANT DEB**, Elle desire que le titre conféré par le présent Diplôme soit pour Mr. *le Raja* une marque de son estime particulière et un motif de plus de contribuer à l'objet que la société Asiatique se propose.

Paris, le 25 Mars, 1835.

Le Presidem.

Le Secretaire.

EUGENE BÜRNOUF.

CR. AMEDEV JAUBERT.

TABLE

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF PARIS.

ASIAN SOCIETY.

The Asiatic Society of Paris, to itself the
aid of enlightened individuals, have, in conformity
with the law of the 15th of April 1835, and
after having been authorized by the Royal Decree of the
15th of the same month, to do so, at a public assembly
held on the 15th of April 1835, at the Hotel de
Bourbon, in the presence of the President, Eugene Bernoulli,
and of the members of the Society, assembled
in the hall of the Hotel de Bourbon, the President, Eugene
Bernoulli, has read the following report, in which
he has explained the objects of the Society, and the
means of attaining them. The report has been
received by the Society, and the President, Eugene
Bernoulli, has proposed the following resolution:
That the Asiatic Society of Paris, be constituted
as a public establishment, and that the President,
Eugene Bernoulli, be authorized to do so, at a public
assembly, to be held on the 15th of April 1835, at the
Hotel de Bourbon, in the presence of the President,
Eugene Bernoulli, and of the members of the Society,
assembled in the hall of the Hotel de Bourbon.

Paris, the 15th of April 1835.

Paris, the 15th of April 1835.

The President.

CA. AMBERGHEM.

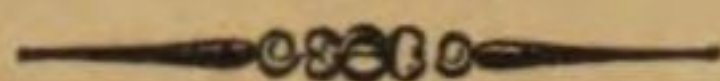
EUGENE BERNOUT.

Secretary.

CA. AMBERGHEM.

EUGENE BERNOUT.

TRANSLATION.



ASIATIC SOCIETY.

The Asiatic Society, eager to ensure to itself the aid of enlightened individuals, have, in conformity with the 1st Article of the 2nd Section of their Statutes, sanctioned by the Royal mandate dated the 15th April, 1829, at a meeting held on the 2nd March 1835, on the presentation of Messrs. Eugene Burnouf and Julius Mohl, members of the Society, accorded the title of Member of the Asiatic Society to Mr. the Raja Radhakant Deb, trusting that the title conferred by the present Diploma will be considered by the Raja as a mark of their particular esteem, and moreover incite him to contribute to the objects which the Society have in view.

Paris, the 25th March 1835.

The President.

EUGENE BURNOUF.

CR. AMEDEE JAUBERT.

Secretary,

TRANSLATION

1837

Royal Society of Bengal and the Asiatic Society

The Asiatic Society, eager to ensure to itself the aid of enlightened individuals, have, in conformity with the 1st Article of the 2nd Section of their Statutes, sanctioned by the Royal mandate dated the 15th April, 1835, at a meeting held on the 2nd March 1835, on the presentation of Messrs. Eugene Burnout and Julius Mohl, members of the Society, accorded the title of Member of the Asiatic Society to Mr. the Raja Radhakant Deb, trusting that the title conferred by the present Diploma will be considered by the Raja as a mark of their particular esteem, and moreover incite him to contribute to the objects which the Society have in view.

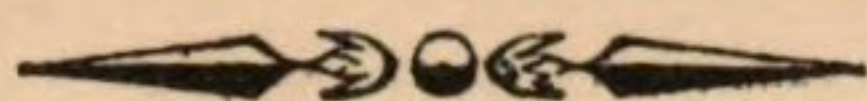
Paris, the 25th March 1835.

EUGENE BURNOUT, Secy. for Asiatic Society.

Secretary

DIPLOMA.

Royal Society of Northern Antiquities at Copenhagen,



DET KONGELIGE

NORDISKE OLDSKRIFT SELSKAB

HAR OPTAGET.

RADHAKANT RAJA BAHADOOR,

CALCUTTA,

Til sit stiptende Redlem, da Selskabet i ham hoiagter en

RAND, DER BAADE KAN OG DIL PREMME DETS FORMAAL.

Givet Paa Selskabets Rode i kjobenhaan den

29 de Jan., 1849.

FREDERICK R. *President.*

M. C. P. WEGENER, *Vice President.*

C. C. RAFFN, *Secretary,*

SEAL.

RECEIVED

Library of the Northern Antiquities at Copenhagen

The Royal Society of Northern Antiquities

DET KONGELIGE

Historisk Oldskrift Samfund

Historisk Oldskrift Samfund

RADHAKANT BALA RAHADOOR

OLDENBURG

A Member of the Society of Northern Antiquities

For the purpose of the Society, the following is the list of the members

NAME OF THE MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY

Given for the purpose of the Society, the following is the list of the members

23 de Jan. 1843.

FREDERICK H. P. P. P.

M. C. A. W. W. W. W. W.

G. C. R. R. R. R. R.



TRANSLATION.



The Royal Society of Northern Antiquities

HAS CHOSEN

RADHAKANT RAJA BAHADOOR,

CALCUTTA,

a Member of this Society, of which this document is a
certificate. Given at the Society's House.

Copenhagen the 29th January, 1849.

FREDERICK R. *President.*

M. C. P. WEGNER, *Vice President.*

C. C. RAFN, *Secretary.*

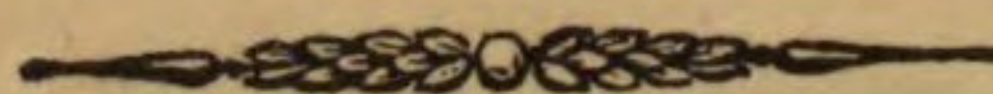
SEAL.

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DIPLOMA.

German Oriental Society.



DIE

DEUTSCHE MORGENLANDISCHE GESELLSCHAFT

ERNENNT NACH § 13 IHRER STATUTEN,

HERRN

RAJA RAORAKANTA DEVA BEHAROOOR,

IN

CALCUTTA,

ZU IHREM CORRESPONDIERENDEN MITGLIEDE

WORUBER

GEGENWARTIGE URKUNDE

MIT DEM SIEGEL DER GESELLSCHAFT.

AUSGESTELLT WIRD.

IM AUSTRACE VORSTANDES

DIE GESCHAFTSFUHRER.

DR. FR. AUG. ARNOLDS, *in Halle*

DR. TH. HARBRUCKER, *in Halle*

DR. R. ANGER, *in Leipzig.*

DR. H. BROCKHAUS, *in Leipzig.*



Halle and Leipzig, }
Am. 1sten Marz, 1853. }

VEREINIGTE
DEUTSCHE
GESAMTSCHAFT

DEUTSCHE MORGENLANDISCHE

GESAMTSCHAFT

VEREINIGT NACH DER NACHSTEN

VEREINIGUNG DER MORGENLANDISCHEN

IN

GALETTA

TO THEIR CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

VEREINIGUNG DER MORGENLANDISCHEN

MIT DEM NACHSTEN DER NACHSTEN

AUSGESTELLT WIRD

IM AUSSTELLUNG VORSTAND

DER VEREINIGUNG
DER MORGENLANDISCHEN
VEREINIGUNG DER MORGENLANDISCHEN
VEREINIGUNG DER MORGENLANDISCHEN
VEREINIGUNG DER MORGENLANDISCHEN



VEREINIGUNG DER MORGENLANDISCHEN
VEREINIGUNG DER MORGENLANDISCHEN

TRANSLATION.



THE GERMAN ORIENTAL SOCIETY

Announces according their rules that

RAJA RADHAKANTA DEVA BAHADOOR,

CALCUTTA,

Is elected a corresponding Member of their Society
of which the present Diploma, is sealed with the
Seal of the Society in verification of the above.

OFFICE BEARERS,

DR. FR. AUG. ARNOLDS, *in Halle*

DR. TH. HARBRUCKER, *in Halle*

DR. R. ANGER, *in Leipzig.*

DR. H. BROCKHAUS, *in Leipzig,*



Halle and Leipzig, }
1st March, 1853.

TRANSLATION



THE HONORABLE MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY

Announces according their order that

RAJA RADHAKANTA DEVA BAHADUR,

OF ALLOTTA,

Is elected a corresponding Member of their Society
of which the present Diploma, is sealed with the
Seal of the Society in verification of the above.

OFFICE SECRETARY,

DR. FR. AUG. ARNOELDE, in India

DR. TH. HARRINGTON, in India

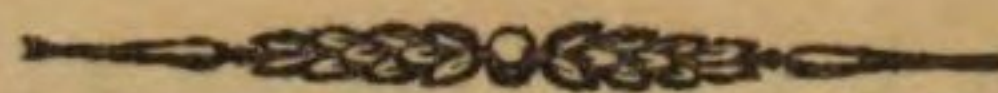
DR. R. ANGER, in India

DR. H. BROCKHAUS, in India



India and Europe
1st March, 1858

DIPLOMA.



AMERICAN ORIENTAL SOCIETY,

FOUNDED AT BOSTON.

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

RAJA RADHAKANTA DEVA

IS AN HONORARY MEMBER OF THE

AMERICAN ORIENTAL SOCIETY.

Boston, in the United States of America, May 1853.

EDWARD ROBINSON, *President.*

EZRA ABBOT, *Jr. Recording Secretary.*

EDWARD ELBRIDGE SALISBURY, *Corresponding
Secretary.*

SEAL

REVUE DE LA

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FRANÇAISE

REVUE DE LA

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DIPLOMA.

Imperial Academy of Sciences, at St. Petersburg.

AUSPICIIS
IMPERATORIS AUGUSTISSIMI,
ALEXANDRI II.

Autocratoris Omnium Rossiarum Potentissimi
Domini Sui et Protectoris Clementissimi,

PRAESIDE
COMITE DEMETRIO BLUDOFF,
Imperialis Academia Scientiarum Petropolitana,
PRINCIPEM ALTISSIMUM

CRI RADHAKANTA,

Virum literarum Sanscritarum peritis-
simum earumque fautorem genero-
sissimum Socium honoris causa
sibi jungendum

RITE ELEGIT

Die XXIX Decembris Anni MDCCCLVI.

ELECTUMQUE

LITERIS HIS PUBLICIS
RENUNTIAVIT ET DECLARAVIT.

No. 430

D. COME. BLUDOFF,

A. DE. MIDDENDORFF,

Academiae perpetuo a Secretis.

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TRANSLATION.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE
OF
THE MOST AUGUST EMPEROR
ALEXANDER II.

THE MOST POWERFUL AUTOCRAT AND MOST MERCIFUL PROTECTOR OF ALL THE RUSSIAS,

PRESIDENT

COUNT DEMETRIUS BLUDOFF,

THE

IMPERIAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF ST. PETERSBURG,

HAS IN DUE FORM CHOSEN AS AN

HONORARY MEMBER OF THEIR SOCIETY,

THE VERY ILLUSTRIOUS RAJA

SRI RADHAKANTA.

A Gentleman profoundly versed in Sanscrit Literature and a most generous patron of the same, December 29, 1856.

HIS ELECTION IS PROCLAIMED AND CERTIFIED

BY THIS

PUBLIC DIPLOMA.

No. 430

D. COUNT BLUDOFF,

A. DE MIDDENDORFF,

Perpetual Secretary to the Academy.

THE ACADEMY

ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AT BERLIN

UNDER THE PATRONAGE

of the Prussian Government

THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

ALEXANDER II

Imperial and Royal

Academy of Sciences

of the Prussian Government

of the Russian Empire

OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE

OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE

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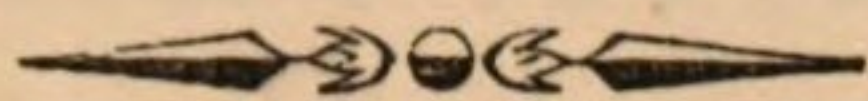
OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE

OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE

OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE



DIPLOMA.
ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AT BERLIN.



Auspiciis Serenissimi Ac Potentissimi,

Friderici Guilelmi IV,

BORUSSORUM REGIS

Academiae Scientiarum Borussicae

Protectoris Clementissimi

Virum Illustrem suisque titulis

Condecorandum

PRINCIPEM RADHAKANTAM DEVAM

REGIAE NOSTRAE ACADEMIAE

SOCIUM HONORARIUM

DECLARAMUS EUMQUE PRAEROGATIVIS

ACADEMICORUM ORDINI CONCESSIS RITE ORNAMUS

Cujus rei ut plena fides existat, ex decreto Academiae
 in acta relato hasce litteras sigillo nostro publico et
 subscriptione consueta munitas expediri jussimus.

Berolini die 27 April, Anno, 1858.

F. A. TRENDELENBURG, *Class: Philos: histor: Secretar:*

JOANN FRANCISE ENCKE, *Class: Phys: Math:*

Secretarius.

AUG. BOECKH, *Class: Philos: Histor: Secretar:*

CHRIST: GODFR. EHRENBURG, *Class: Physic: Mathemat:*

Secretarius.

SEAL.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AT BERLIN

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AT BERLIN

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AT BERLIN

FREDERICK GUILLIUM IV

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AT BERLIN

Academy of Sciences at Berlin

Academy of Sciences at Berlin

Academy of Sciences at Berlin

Condensation

PRINCIPLE OF RADIATION

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TRANSLATION.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE

OF

THE MOST SERENE AND POWERFUL

FREDERIC WILLIAM IV.

KING OF PRUSSIA,

Benign Patron of the Prussian Academy of Sciences,

WE PROCLAIM

RAJA RADHAKANTA DEVA,

An Illustrious Gentleman and worthy of peculiar honors

AN HONORARY MEMBER

OF OUR ROYAL ACADEMY,

And we confer on him all the privileges which of right belong to the members of our Academy.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,

By the decree of the Academy we have caused this Diploma to be registered among the records of the Academy and to be certified by our public seal and signature.

Berlin April 27th, 1858.

F. A. TRENDELENBURG, *Class: Philos: histor: Secretary:*

JOANN FRANCIS ENCKE, *Class: Phys: Math:*

Secretary.

AUG. BOECKH, *Class: Philos: Histor: Secretary:*

CHRIST: GODFR. EHRENBURG, *Class: Physic: Mathemat:*

Secretary.

OPINIONS ON THE SABDAKALPADRUMA.

Extract of a letter from J. Prinsep, Esq., Secretary to the Asiatic Society of Bengal, dated 7th July, 1836.

The Society is already aware of the eminent services, you have rendered to your countrymen, as well as to every student of Indian Literature by the compilation, and publication of your Sanscrit Encyclopædical Lexicon, and is satisfied that you will derive the truest sentiments of self-pride, and satisfaction from having accomplished so laudable and creditable an undertaking; while to posterity your name will be handed down, among those who have been most prominent in enriching and preserving your national literature.

Extract from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Committee of Correspondence of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Transactions of the R. A. S of G. B. and I. vol. 2nd Ap. P. LXIII.

Sir Alexander Johnston, having laid before the Committee, the first volume of a Sanscrit Encyclopædical Dictionary, and a Bengallee Spelling Book, compiled by Baboo Radhakant Deb, of Calcutta. It was resolved.—“That in consequence of the talent displayed in those works, and the general exertions of Baboo Radhakant Deb, for the promotion of knowledge, he be recommended to the Council for election, as a Corresponding Member of the Royal Asiatic Society,” “that a Report of the steps taken by this Society in relation to Capt. Low, and Baboo Radhakant Deb, be made to Lord William Bentinck, and Mr. Fullerton; and that those Governors be requested to afford their assistance to Capt. Low, and Baboo Radhakant Deb, in the attainment of the Society’s objects.”—

Extract of a letter from P. Clarke, Esq., Secretary to the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain, and Ireland, dated 6th April, 1845.

In acknowledging the continuation of your learned and valuable work, allow me to assure you how highly the Royal Asiatic Society estimates the elaborate productions of learned Native gentlemen, and what marked approbation accompanies the recognition of their labours.

Extract from the Annual Report of the Asiatic Society of Paris, for 1846.

Le Rajah Radhakant Deb de Calcutta, a fait paraître le cinquieme volume de son Dictionnaire encyclopedique Sanscrit. Dans cet ouvrage, chaque mot est suivi de l'interpretation du sens, des synonymes avec l'indication du dictionnaire dont ils sont tires, de la description de l'object auquel il s'applique, et de citations empruntees aux livres classiques qui en ont fait usage. L'utilite de cet ouvrage pour les etudes en Europe es malheureusement restrieinte par son excessive rarete; car l'auteur l'imprime a ses frais et ne le met pas en vente.—Le systeme de distribuer les ouvrages au lieu de les vendre fait honneur a la magnificence des auteurs ou des Gouvernements, mais quelque soin qu'on mette a les faire parvenir dans les mains de ceux en feraint usage, on n'y reussit jamais completely, et il vaudrait mieux, je dirais meme, il serait plus genereux de les mettre en vente a un prix assez bas pour que tous ceux qui en ont besoin pussent se les procurer.

L'enterprise de Radhakant Deb est, au reste, de' autant plus meritoire que l'etude du sanscrit, comme, en general, celle des langues savantes de l'Orient, na jamais ete aussi peu encouragee dans l'Inde qu'elle l'est actuellement.

Translation.

Rajah Radhakant Deb of Calcutta has issued the 5th vol. of his Sanscrit Encyclopedic Dictionary. In this work each word is followed by the explanation of its meaning, by synonymes, the Dictionary being indicated from which they are taken; by the description of the object to which the word applies; and by quotations from the classical works in which it is used.

The utility of this work for the purposes of study in Europe is unfortunately limited by reason of its great scarcity, for the author presents it at his own cost and does not put it forward for sale. The system of distributing works instead of selling them, does honor to the generosity of authors and Governments, but in spite of the care they may take to cause their books to reach the hands of those who can make use of them, they never succeed completely in effecting their purpose, and it would be much better, and I may even say more generous to cause the works to be sold at a price sufficiently low to enable all those to procure them who have need of them.

Finally the undertaking of Radhakant Deb, is so much the more meritorious, as the study of the sanscrit, as that of the learned languages of the East generally, has never been so little encouraged in India as at the present time.

Extract from the Journal of the American Oriental Society vol. 1. No. 1. P 77.

The learned Radhakant Deb, at Calcutta, continues the printing of his *Thesaurus* of the Sanscrit language and literature; the 4th volume reached Paris two years ago.

Extract of a letter from G. A. Bushby, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, dated 15th January, 1848.

They (the Court) have requested the Government to convey to you their thanks for the presentation of the Dictionary, and to signify their high sense of the industry and learning exhibited in the work.

Extract of a letter from George Cowper, Secretary to the Government of India, dated 5th August, 1853.

I am directed to inform you that in a despatch recently received, the Hon'ble Court direct the Governor General in Council to convey to you their acknowledgements for your very valuable and learned work and to express their satisfaction in finding that you have justly appreciated the motives by which they are actuated in giving encouragement to the cultivation of the ancient language and literature of India.

Extract from the Preface to the Sanscrit and English Dictionary of Dr. Horace Hayman Wilson, Professor of Sanscrit in the University of Oxford, 1st edition, 1819, P. XXXVIII.

A compilation of a superior character to any of these modern works and indeed to any of the more ancient works is now in progress in Calcutta, it is entitled the Sabdakalpadruma, and is a Sanscrit Dictionary alphabetically arranged, with reference to the authorities and with copious explanations in the Sanscrit language, it is printed in the Bengali character, it is the work of a young native gentleman of fortune and family, Radhakanta Deva, with the assistance of the best pandits, and is printing at his

own expense, and is an occupation which singularly contrasts with the low luxury, in which Hindoos of his age and rank ordinarily spend their time and money; the politeness of the author has favoured me with the first sheets of the work, but I regret, it has not sufficiently advanced for me to benefit by its contents, he has also obliged me with many critical remarks on the earlier part of my own Dictionary, of which where practicable, I have availed myself. The Sabdakalpadruma must take some considerable time before it is completed.

Extract of an article by Dr. H. H. Wilson, published in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland Vol. 13, Pt. 2, P. 209.

Besides the laudable efforts which are being made in India to preserve the memorials of Antiquity, very meritorious activity prevails there in the promotion of Sanscrit literature. Foremost amongst its results, we may place the completion of a voluminous Sanscrit Lexicon, by Raja Radhakanta Deva, a native gentleman of Calcutta of the highest respectability and well known as combining a devoted attachment to the institutions and religion of his country, with a liberal participation in all public measures for improving the education of his countrymen by the efficient cultivation of the English language and European literature and science.

Extract of a letter from the same, dated London, 16th August 1852.

Your perseverance and disinterestedness in this great work are entitled to the highest credit, and it will no doubt perpetuate your name for ever amongst the students of sanscrit.

Ditto, dated 18th May, 1859.

Your work is an immense storehouse of valuable materials and will be consulted whilst Sanscrit is studied; I wish it were reprinted in a smaller type and on better paper.

Extract of a letter from A. Stirling Esq., Persian Secretary to the Government of India, dated 23rd Jany., 1826.

The highest consideration appears to be due to the author for engaging in so useful and at the same time laborious a literary undertaking, and the manner of its execution will afford the most important facilities to the study of Sanscrit letters.

Extract of a letter from William Butterworth Bayley Vice President of the Supreme Council of India dated the 27th Janury, 1826.

I am well persuaded that a work to which *you* have devoted much of your time and attention must be highly valuable and useful, and it is gratifying to observe, that your talents and labours are directed to numerous important objects tending to advance the knowledge, to raise the character and to promote the best interests of your countrymen.

Extract of a letter from G. F. Gordon, Esq., dated 8th February, 1826.

The proof of your munificent application of time and fortune, to the promotion of the literature of your countrymen which your valuable Dictionary affords, in addition to the many other instances exhibited in your zealous support of every public institution that has education for its object, cannot fail to place you high in the esteem of liberal minded English-

men * * * and I beg to add my earnest hope that you may long live not merely to complete the work, but to enjoy the well earned reputation to which it will so justly entitle you.

Extract from the Preface to the Rev. Mr. Morton's Dictionary of the Bengali and English language.

The Sabdakalpadruma now in course of publication by Baboo Radhakanta Deva, whose talents and useful labours reflect the greatest credit on himself and his fellow countrymen of this Province, and promise to be of eminent service to the students of Hindoo Literature, has been consulted as far as published. The compiler having with equal kindness, and liberality been favoured by that gentleman with a copy of the extant portion of his elaborate work, takes this opportunity of offering his grateful acknowledgments to him for the aid thence derived.

Extract of an article by Dr. R. Lenz, published in the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, Vol. 11, P. 188 (1835.)

Three volumes of this valuable work comprising each nearly 1000 pages in large quarto, are now in the library of the Royal Asiatic Society, presented to it by the learned author. This portion perfectly justifies the high character, which Professor Wilson gave the work in the first edition of his Dictionary in 1819; anticipating only from a few sheets, then printed, how inestimable a store of authentic information on a variety of subjects connected with sanscrit literature would be laid open by this admirable undertaking, the expensiveness of which did not however admit a hope of its speedy accomplishment. Radhakanta's work is very distinctly, and generally speaking, accurately printed in the Bengali character; and deserves certainly not the least part

of its superior character to the generality of Indian Printings from being alphabetically arranged in the European method. A great part of it's articles have indeed become comparatively of inferior importance since the appearance of the 2nd edition of Mr. Wilson's Dictionary, where every additional information, supplied by the learned Hindoo on the different meanings of words, has of course been carefully reproduced by the celebrated lexicographer, who was then already in possession of the three volumes before us, except a few sheets at the end of the last. Our recommendation of these volumes is not so much founded on the lexicographical as on the Encyclopædical portion; which forms by far, the most copious and interesting part of the whole; altho' the first mentioned articles have a fair claim to the attention of the sanscrit student on account of their ample specification of synonymes, collected from all *coshas* of celebrity and their commentaries, so as to supply in some measure, the deficiency of a dictionary, English and Sanscrit, or that of an index pointing out for any meaning all the variety of Sanscrit expressions. The method adopted by the author in articles of a merely lexicographical nature, is, next to the word in question, to note its' gender if a noun, or if not, its' grammatical character, then to give a short definition of its' meaning by mentioning the class of beings or ideas to which it belongs, next to explain it by corresponding expressions in Bengali; sometimes also in Persian; after which he proceeds to the *Paryâya* or list of Synonymes in sanscrit, which sometimes amount as in the article *Chandra* to the number of one hundred and more, noticing always their respective authorities. * * * *

We beg to conclude our present remarks on this important work with the prediction, that in its remaining portion the author will probably continue

to extend its articles in the same proportion as he has evidently done during his preparation of the present volumes, the third of which contains an article of no less than 162 pages on *Prâyaschitta* analogous in form and nature to that on *karmavipaka* which we mentioned above: we only wish he would no longer prevent his European admirers from reaping the advantage of the portion hitherto printed, but at once make up his mind to send to Europe these three volumes, valuable as are their contents, to be sold separately.

Extract of a letter from Eugene Burnouf, Membre d'l'Institut de France, dated 5th May, 1835.

J'éprouve une grande satisfaction à vous annoncer que le Conseil de la Société Asiatique de Paris vous a reçu au nombre des membres honoraires, sur la proposition que j'en ai faite et qui a été appuyée par Mr. Le Dr. Mohl, l'un des membres du conseil. Vous étiez depuis long temps appelé, Monsieur, à faire partie des membres honoraires de la Société, et le conseil n'ignorait pas les grands services que vous rendez à la littérature indienne par la publication de votre *Sabda Kalpa Druma*, véritable trésor philologique, philosophique et religieux de l'Inde. * * * mais, j'ai déjà pu voir par le examen rapide de plusieurs articles étendus, tels que *Prayaschitta Brahamana* et autres, quelle riche instruction contient cet ouvrage que est fait pour placer le nom de son auteur au premier rang des Savants Brahmanes qui ont consacré leurs veilles à ce noble et honorable de populariser la belle langue et la littérature intéressante de leurs pères.

Translation.

I feel great pleasure in announcing to you, that the Council of the Asiatic Society has enrolled you as a member upon my proposition, which was supported by Dr. Mohl, one of the members of the Council, you

have been for a length of time nominated to become an Honorary Member of the Society, and the Council was not ignorant of the great services you rendered to Indian Literature, by the publication of your *Sabdakalpadruma*, a real philological, philosophical and religious treasure of India.* * * *

I can already see from a brief examination of many excellent articles, such as *Prayaschitta*, *Brahmana* and others, what great instruction can be derived from this work which must place the name of it's author on the first rank of learned Brahmins, who have consecrated their labors to the honorable end for making popular the fine language and interesting literature of their fathers.

Extract of a letter from the same dated 25th October, 1840.

Je pense que vous n'aviez pas besoin de cet hommage pour être convaincu des sentiments de respect et de gratitude que je vous porte; et du plaisir avec lequel je me souviens du beau présent que vous avez bien voulu me faire de votre précieux et si utile *Sabdakalpadruma*. Je ne puis me servir de votre excellent lexique sans vous remercier de cœur du service que vous avez rendu à la connaissance de l'Inde en le composant, et à mes études particulières, en voulant bien m'en adresser un exemplaire.

Translation.

I think you don't require any homage to be convinced of the sentiments of respect and gratitude which I entertain for you, and of the pleasure with which I remember the beautiful present which you have been good enough to make to me of your very valuable and useful *Sabdakalpadruma*. I cannot make use of your excellent lexicon without thanking

you heartily for the service which you have rendered to the literature of India by its preparation, and to my particular studies, in being good enough to present me with a copy of it.

Extract of a letter from Major A. Troyer, Member of the Asiatic Society of Paris, Editor of the Raja Tarangini, &c. dated—June, 1837.

Be sure that we expect with great impatience the continuation of your valuable Dictionary, honorable mention of which was made in several philosophical journals of the Continent.

Do Dated Paris, 12th January, 1847.

I have in my last letter expressed to you his (Monsr. Gorressio's) desire to carry with your name, your excellent Dictionary to Turin, the capital of one of the Italian kingdoms; your work will be the only one in Italy, which country will not then have to envy France and Germany, where your merit is already justly appreciated.

Do. Dated 18th December, 1849, quoted in a letter from H. Piddington, Esq., dated 7th Feby., 1849.

Our worthy friend Major Troyer, in a letter from Paris, 18th December says: "will you be so kind as to remember me kindly to my friend Raja Radhakant Deb, and to tell him that Monsr. Gorressio has received his Dictionary, and that the continuation of this most valuable work is anxiously expected by all the sanscrit scholars; tell him, I beg you, that his Sabdakalpadruma shall be a "*Namayasadruma*."

Do. Dated Paris 20th March, 1859.

Your very valuable work, the Sabdakalpadruma, perpetually strikes my eyes among my books, and is often consulted by me. I congratulate you very

sincerely upon the well deserved testimonies of honor which you have received from so many learned Societies of Europe * * * * You have completed the great service which your lexicon renders, and will for ever render, to Sanscrit literature by an Appendix.

Extract of a letter from Dr. Nathaniel Wallich, dated London, 6th June, 1838.

There is a Latin quotation which I may in perfect truth apply to you: *Exergiste monumentum ære perennius*, that is to say, you have raised to yourself a trophy more lasting than brass or other transitory things. I cannot conceive a more stupendous and noble undertaking than your Sanscrit Dictionary, which judging from the awful labour of the four first volumes ending with य will at least require another final very big volume. All who have any respect for literature, all who have the least pretension to judge of the sublimity of the Sanscrit language, and all who not knowing the least of it, have at least the decency to suppose that the admiration for the venerable language expressed by such men as a Colebrooke, a Jones, a Mill, a Wilson, a Schlegel, a Wilford, a Carey and the other great foreigners (not to say a word of the natives of this country,) is well founded, all I say must feel the deep gratitude that is due to the great and learned author of such a work as the Sabdakalpadruma.

Extract of a letter from George Norton, Esq., dated 25th September, 1844.

In my position as President of the Madras University, I must bring your splendid work to useful account, and in every way I feel gratified by such a mark of esteem paid me by a fellow labourer in the cause of native education and advancement.

Extract of a letter from Dr. E. Roer, dated 7th June, 1847.

Accept my sincerest thanks for your kindness in presenting me with a copy of the Dictionary which will be of the highest value to me. I owe to it already a great debt of gratitude for the assistance I derived from it when all other resources failed me. When translating the *Bhâshâparichchheda*, the technical terms of which I had sometimes great difficulty in understanding exactly, I found always my doubts removed on referring to the Dictionary, when the Pandit whom I consulted could not give me a satisfactory explanation.

Extract of a letter from H. B. Koenig Esq., to Dr. E. Roer published in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. 17, Part 1. P. 33.

To the celebrated Radhakanta, I shall by the same opportunity, transmit a copy of all my publications, which I have sent to the society, for which consignment, you sir, will be kind enough to procure one or two copies of the celebrated Sanscrit Dictionary published by Radhakanta. The distinguished author, will perhaps be the more inclined to comply with my wishes, as he will benefit by it, in a high degree the Oriental Students in Germany, as I do not design this work for sale, but shall religiously keep it for the numerous applications made to me for its use.

Extract of a letter from the same to the Raja, dated Bonn 21st December, 1847.

The applications made to me for the use of this treasure, are already very numerous, though it has not as yet arrived here, and willingly as I would further science, by fulfilling all requests, and granting all wishes, this of course is impossible as the number of

those, who devote themselves at present to this branch of science is already too vast ever in Germany alone, to allow the use of it to all, however urgent their requests, however desirous and able, they themselves may be, I must be content by granting the use of this work only to the most eminent of the eminent students of sanscrit, to whom it will be an inexhaustible source of knowledge and wisdom, as it will be a great gratification to me, to be thus instrumental in furthering and increasing science.

Extract of a letter from F. E. Hall Esq., Assistant Principal, Benares College dated 26th April, 1850.

In a letter from Dr. Wilson, which Dr. Ballantyne received a short time ago, the learned Oxford Professor expresses himself in much, about the same terms respecting your most laudable compilation, that he employs in the Preface to the first Edition of his dictionary, commendation from such a quarter you must of course, in company with all Indian scholars, esteem at its value, which is not light.

Extract of a letter from Dr. Herman Brockhaus, Professor of Sanscrit Literature in the University of Leipzig, and Secretary to the German Oriental Society, dated 5th December, 1850.

You are not unacquainted with the deep interest which has been awakened in Europe by the introduction of the study of the ancient sacred language and literature of your nation, that this interest is heightened every year as new sources of this grand object are opened and become the object of deep and scientific investigation. * * * * *

But alas the necessary resources to bring light and order into this world so new to us often fail us. One of the most important of these resources is your

inestimable Sabdakalpadruma. Astonishing is the learning displayed in this great work, so rich in its contents, so invaluable as the most complete collection of the most valuable results of the Indian mind, but alas it is extremely rare in the Continent of Europe. It is quite impossible to obtain it through book-sellers, and as I find myself so often at a loss in my studies from the want of it, I hope you will excuse the request that I here venture to make viz, to send me a copy of your Sabdakalpadruma.

Extract of a letter from the same, dated 15th December 1851.

It is a source of heartfelt delight to me, that your obliging and ready compliance, with my request, will put me in possession of the invaluable treasures contained in your Encyclopædia of the Indian language and wisdom.

I shall consider this precious work the gift of your generosity as a deposit presented in some measure to the learned men of Germany, and shall willingly extend my communications to all, who may wish to quaff from this inexhaustible spring. I hope thus to make the most honorable use of your valuable present, and at the same time to comply most worthily with the views and wishes of the generous donor.

Extract of a letter from Edward E. Salisbury, Professor of Sanscrit in Yale College in the United States of America, and Secretary to the American Oriental Society, dated 28th September, 1850.

While I beg you to receive my grateful acknowledgments, I would fain hope that the fulfilment of your desires, respecting the cultivation of Sanscrit learning in the Western world, may be promoted by the introduction of your work into our libraries.

Extract of a letter from Pandita Radhakrishna of the Court of the late Maharaja Ranajita Sinha, dated Lahore, 9th June, 1852.

The 7th Vol. of the said work, has not yet reached this station, but is expected within a very short time. The other volumes of the work have lately occupied my close attention and been found to be an invaluable production in the literary world; your indefatigable labor I firmly believe, will be amply rewarded by the inestimable advantages, which students will derive from its perusal. * * * * *

* * * * * As I have caused the work to be transcribed in the *Devanagara* character, the Literati, of this Province have thereby an easy access to it; all the Pundits of this country, who have seen it, have expressed their approbation of it in high terms of eulogium.

Extract of a letter from Dr Charles Lassen, Professor of Sanscrit Literature in Bonn, dated 7th August, 1852.

By the completion of the *Sabdakalpadruma*, one of the most arduous and important literary enterprises, has been brought to a successful conclusion, and thereby a vast treasure of information, on a great number of subjects connected with Indian religion, science, arts, geography, and material productions, has been opened to the literary men who occupy themselves with their study. By this performance your Highness has rendered your name, immortal amongst those of the patrons of sanscrit philology, and proved to the present age, that India still possesses luminaries of science, which may vie with the most celebrated Hindus of yore for glory, your Highness speaks too moderately of your work by saying, that it may be only useful to the novice in Sanscrit, I have on the

contrary by frequently referring to it, after having in vain sought for the desired information in other works, and found which I wanted in your Sabdakalpadruma, convinced myself that it is a rich source of information, on a multitude of subjects. * * *

The Sabdakalpadruma forms the chief ornament of my library, and I need hardly add, that I shall ever cherish in grateful memory the benevolence your Highness has bestowed on me by deigning to present me with such an inestimable gift.

Extract of a letter from the same, dated 4th October, 1853.

By this accomplishment your Highness has made an inexhaustible mine, of hitherto hidden treasures accessible to Sanscrit scholars, and placed your name amongst those of the munificent patrons of Indian philology, the cultivators of which will, for ever, venerate your memory as that of one of their greatest benefactors. Your Highness may rest assured that I shall always regard your donation, as a most precious reward for my labours in the field of Hindu Antiquities, and I ardently wish that the 8th volume may soon be published by which this grand, and incomparable work will be completed.

Extract of a letter from Dr. Albrecht Weber, Docent of the Sanscrit language in the University of Berlin, and Editor of the White Yajurveda, &c., dated 21st October, 1855.

The Sabdakalpadruma will remain for ever a monument of your industry and perseverance and a valuable mine of useful information about the later Hindu notions and literature.

Extract from the Preface to the Sanskrit Worterbuch being published under the auspices of the Imperial Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg, by Rudolph Roth and Otto Bohtlingk Vol. 1, 1855.

Radhakanta's Sabdakalpadruma, eine Werk, welches dem gelehrten Inder in vielfacher Beziehung zur grössten Ehre gereicht, hat uns in den Stand gesetzt, eine grosse zahl von unedirten indischen wörterbüchern und von commentaren zu diesen wörterbüchern, welche uns auch handschriftlich nicht zu Gebote standen, zu benutzen. Auch Anführungen aus edirten und unedirten Schriften, vor allem aber die reiche synonymik von Pflanzennamen ist uns sehr zu Statten gekommen. Ein exemplar dieses durch den Buchhandel nicht erreichbaren schätzbaren werkes verdankt die Kaiserliche Akedemie der Wissenschaften der Freigebigkeit des Verfassers.

Translation.

Radhakant's Sabdakalpadruma, a work which in many respects, reflects the highest credit on the learned Indian, has enabled us to make use of a great number of unedited Indian Dictionaries and of commentaries to these Dictionaries of which we possess no copies. It is very useful likewise for its reference to edited and unedited manuscripts containing all the copious synonymes of plants. This precious work is not obtainable through Booksellers, the Imperial Academy of Sciences is indebted for a copy of it to the liberality of the Author.

Extract of a letter from Dr. Max Muller, Editor of the Rigveda &c. to Dr. E. Roer, dated — 1847. Published in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. 17, Part I, P. 331.

I would especially be gratified to hear the opinion of learned men above the prejudices of their country as Raja Radhakanta Deva for instance, who by his

Dictionary has acquired the lasting gratitude of all Sanscrit scholars, and who best knows that the ancient literature of India need not to be screened from the light of publicity but may boldly challenge the comparison of the literature of all nations the history of which shews the same progress of intellectual development.

Extract from Dr. M. Muller's Preface to the Rigveda Sanhita Vol, 2.

I have been also honored by that distinguished scholar and noble patron of Sanscrit literature Raja Radhakant Deva of Calcutta with a most valuable present the Sabdakalpadruma, a work which by its comprehensive range and its excellent arrangement stands unrivalled in Indian Philology.

Extract of a letter from the same, dated London, 30th March, 1856.

I also felt it my duty to express publicly in the preface to my second volume of the Rigveda, my personal obligation to you for the valuable present which you made me of your magnificent work, the Sabdakalpadruma, a work which does infinite credit to your public spirit, your reverence for the antiquities of your own nation and your comprehensive knowledge of all that is truly valuable in the literature of your ancestors. This work will make your name for ever revered among your countrymen and highly respected among the Scholars of Europe.

तथाच श्रुतिः यावदसिंहे लोके पुरुषः पुण्येन
कर्मणा श्रूयते तावदयं स्वर्गे लोके वसतीति ।

Extract of a letter from Dr. Chütz, dated Bielefeld,
21st October, 1857.*

Till now I honored you deeply, as a great scholar, the author of the *Sabdakalpadruma*, now I love you as one of the kindest hearts on the earth.

*Extract of a letter from Pandita Vitthala Sastri of the
Benares College, dated Samvat, 1908.*

अहमत्र पाठशालायां हालसाहिब समीपे भव-
दीयं महान्तं समस्तप्रत्ननूतकोशगणातिवर्तिनम्
अशेषशास्त्रविषयसङ्ग्रहमनोहरं कोशमवालो-
क्यम् सम्यक् परिचित मुद्रित वङ्गाक्षरतयाच हाल
साहिबेन तदालोचनाय नियोजितः प्रथमं सप्तम-
काण्डमुखोपन्यस्त मुखबंधनाभिधप्रकरणं यथा-
तथम् अद्भुतम् तत्रच श्रीमतां भवताम् एतत्को-
शसमर्पणविषयं सततवर्द्धमान मौदार्य्यातिशयम्
उपलभ्य एतत्कोशप्राप्तावुत्कण्ठितचेता इमं
वर्णदूतं भवत् सविधे प्रास्थापयम् ॥

Translation.

I have seen in this College, with Mr. Hall, your grand Lexicon, which surpasses all ancient and modern Dictionaries and derives its excellence from its comprehending the topics of an infinite variety of *Sastras*. As I am well familiar with printed Bengali characters, he has engaged me to examine the work: I have read the Preface at the beginning of

*This Savant has dedicated his translation of the *Meghaduta* to the Raja, we have not as yet seen the work, otherwise we would have inserted the Dedication in this Appendix.

the 7th Volume; observing therein your ever increasing liberality in the distribution of the book, I have, with an anxious heart to obtain it, sent you this *Literal Messenger*.

Extract of a letter from Raja Vijayagovinda Sinha of Purnia, dated ,

द्वैतध्वान्तविनाशनैकविलसत् सिद्धान्तरत्नप्रदं ।
प्राविन्दं खलु नान्तमेव नितरां श्रीशब्दकल्प-
द्रुमम् ॥

Translation.

Excepting only the last volume, I have received the Sabdakalpadruma, which alone exists to dispel the gloom of doubt and furnishes us with the jewel of demonstrated truth.

Extract of a letter from Maharaja Madanamohana of Vishnupura, dated 2nd Aswina.

भवत्प्रेरिताभिरचितशब्दकल्पद्रुमग्रन्थं दर्शं
दर्शं अस्माकम् अस्मत् सदोमण्डकपण्डितानाञ्च
भूयोभूयोऽखण्डिता परमतुष्टिर्जायते श्रुत्वा तमपि
आलोक्यच अस्माभिः तैश्च नानादर्शनपरिशी-
लिततत्त्वम् अवगन्तव्यम् ।

Translation.

Myself and the Panditas of my *Sabha* have derived perfect and supreme satisfaction from the perusal of your Sabdakalpadruma sent to us; by applying to it and hearing it recited, we must acquaint ourselves with the result of your extensive researches.

*Extract of a letter from Professor Rudolph Roth dated
Tubingen 14th March, 1859.*

—habe ich zunächst um entschuldigung zu bitten dass ich nicht schon früher den richtigen empfang des Sabdakalpadruma anzeigte. Genehmigen Sie meinen besten Dank für dieses werthvolle geschenk, das nicht nur einen schmuck meiner Bücher sammlung bildet und mir die trefflichsten Dienste leistet, sondern auch mich an die freundlichen gesinnungen des gebers erinnert.

Translation

I have first of all to ask apology, that I did not earlier, duly inform you of the Sabdakalpadruma. Accept my best thanks for the precious gift which not only forms an ornament of my library, and renders admirable service to me but reminds me of the friendly feeling of the Donor.

*Extract of a letter from Pandita Radhakrishna dated
Lahore, 10th May, 1859.*

यावच्चन्द्रदिवाकरौ क्षितितले खेनात्मना राजत-
स्तावद्देववरस्य कीर्त्तिरतुला कल्पद्रुमात् स्यास्यति ।
राधाकान्तनृपस्य भूपसुमणे भूमण्डले समुद्रा
जीयाद्वै सच पुत्रपौत्रसहितः श्रीशेन संरक्षितः ॥
धनात् सर्वं सर्वं नच धनयुताः पण्डितगणाः ।
कथंतेषां सर्वं विदितमिव स्यात् पुस्तकशतात् ॥
सुखात्सारं प्राप्ताः सुगमविधिना यस्य कृतितः
क्षितौ राधाकान्तो जयति हि विशेषान्नरपतिः ॥

Translation.

As long as the sun and moon will shed on earth the radiance emanating from them so long will the Kalpadruma derived unparalleled glory of Raja Radhakanta, the chief of the Devas, and the gein amongst the Rajas, continue in this world, may he, protected by *Srisa*, live delighted with his son, and grandson. Wealth commands every thing, but all Panditas are not wealthy, how could they know the contents of hundreds of works: May success attend Radhakanta, the distinguished among the Rajas, by whose felicitiously referable work, the essence of knowledge can be easily obtained.

Extract from Art. VI of the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, read by Professor H. H. Wilson, 19th March 1859.

The writer, a friend of many years, Raja Radhakant Deb is well known as a leading member of the Native Society of Calcutta, who adds to the distinction of rank and station, that of a foremost place amongst Sanscrit scholars, as evinced by his great Lexicon or Literary Encyclopædia of the Sanscrit language, in seven quarto volumes; the Sabdakalpadruma, which enjoys a European as well as Indian celebrity. Any opinion coming from him on subjects connected with the ancient literature of his country is entitled to the greatest deference.

Her Majesty Queen Victoria has been graciously pleased to confer on Raja Radhakanta Bahadur, a distinguished mark of Royal favor by the gift of a splendid gold medal, bearing on one side the head of Her Majesty and on the reverse the words "From

Her Majesty Queen Victoria to Raja Radhakant Bahadur" it was accompanied with the following letter from the Right Honorable Sir Charles Wood, Secretary of State for India.



India Office, 28th July, 1859.

SIR,

I have laid before the Queen your letter with the copy of the *Sabdakalpadruma* forwarded by you for presentation to Her Majesty; and I am commanded to acquaint you that Her Majesty has received the work very graciously, and fully appreciating the spirit of loyalty in which you have transmitted it, has directed me to forward to you the accompanying medal.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

CHARLES WOOD.

Raja Radhakant Deb Bahadur.

My dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. in relation to the matter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
CHARLES H. HARRIS

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. in relation to the matter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,
CHARLES H. HARRIS

Yours very respectfully,
CHARLES H. HARRIS

CHARLES H. HARRIS

Right Honorable J. H. HARRIS

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

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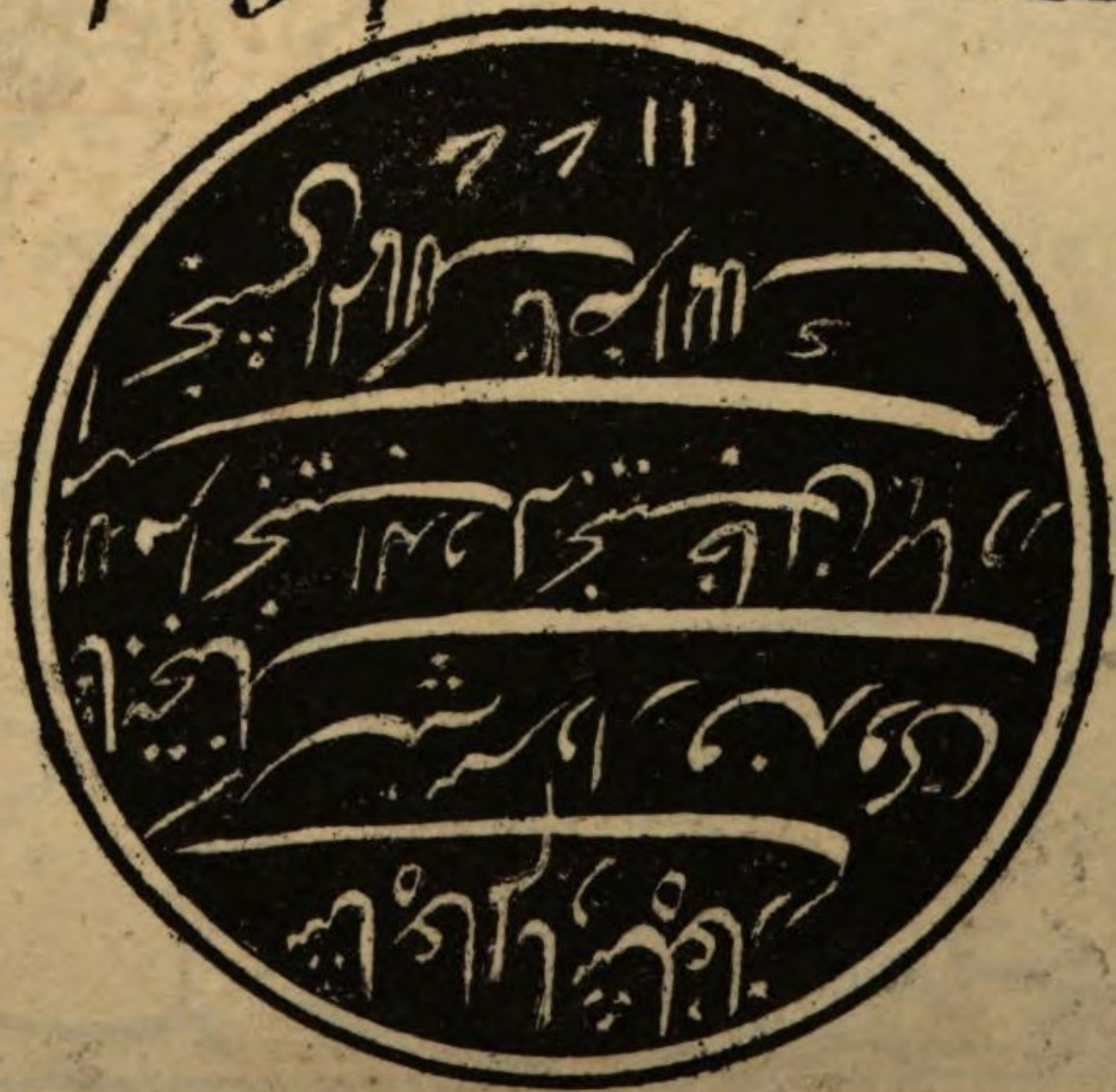
فصل اول

تذکره مشایخ و اولیای
مقامات و بزرگان

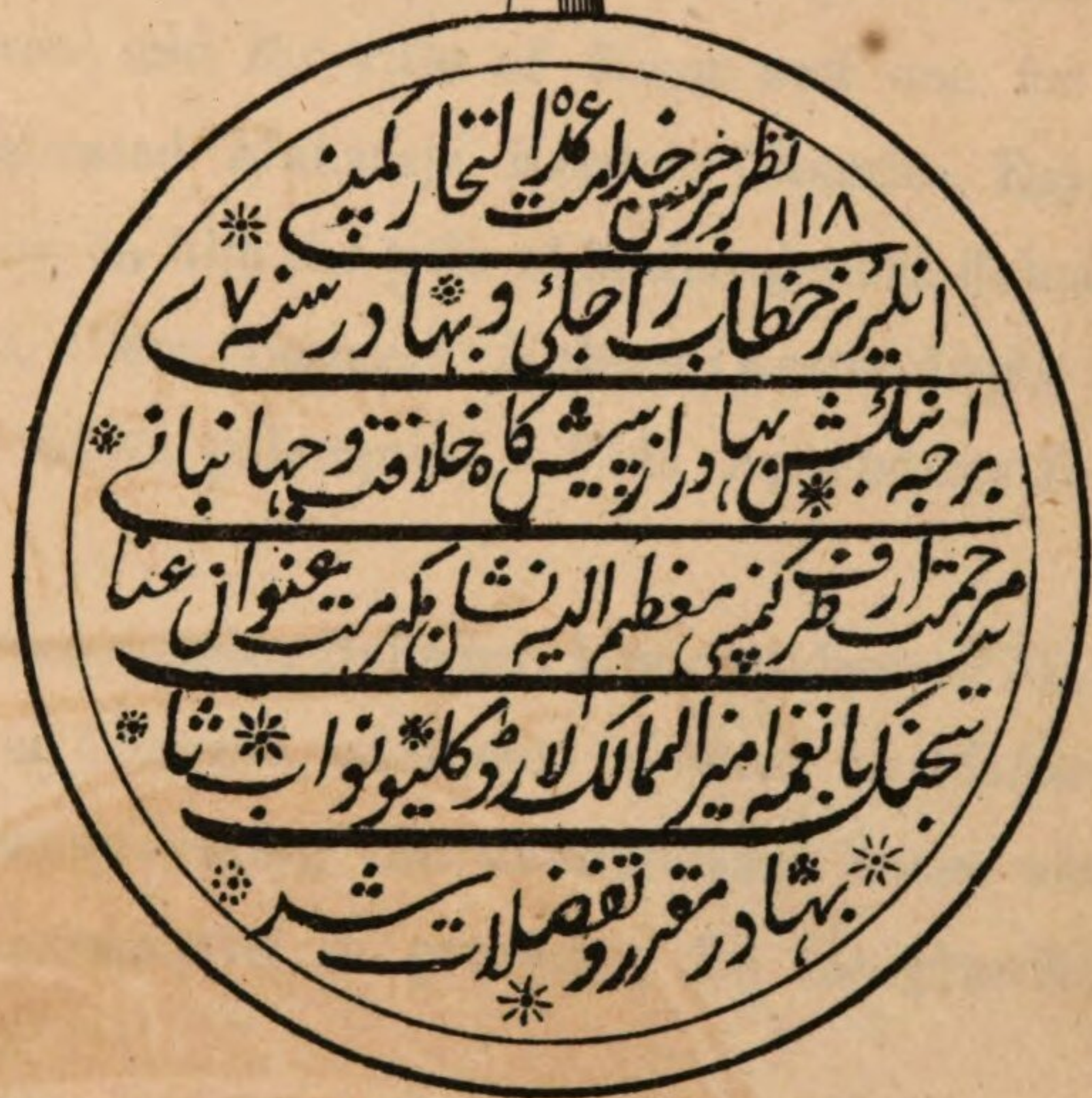
بناجی بنام احمد بن محمد
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Appendix D



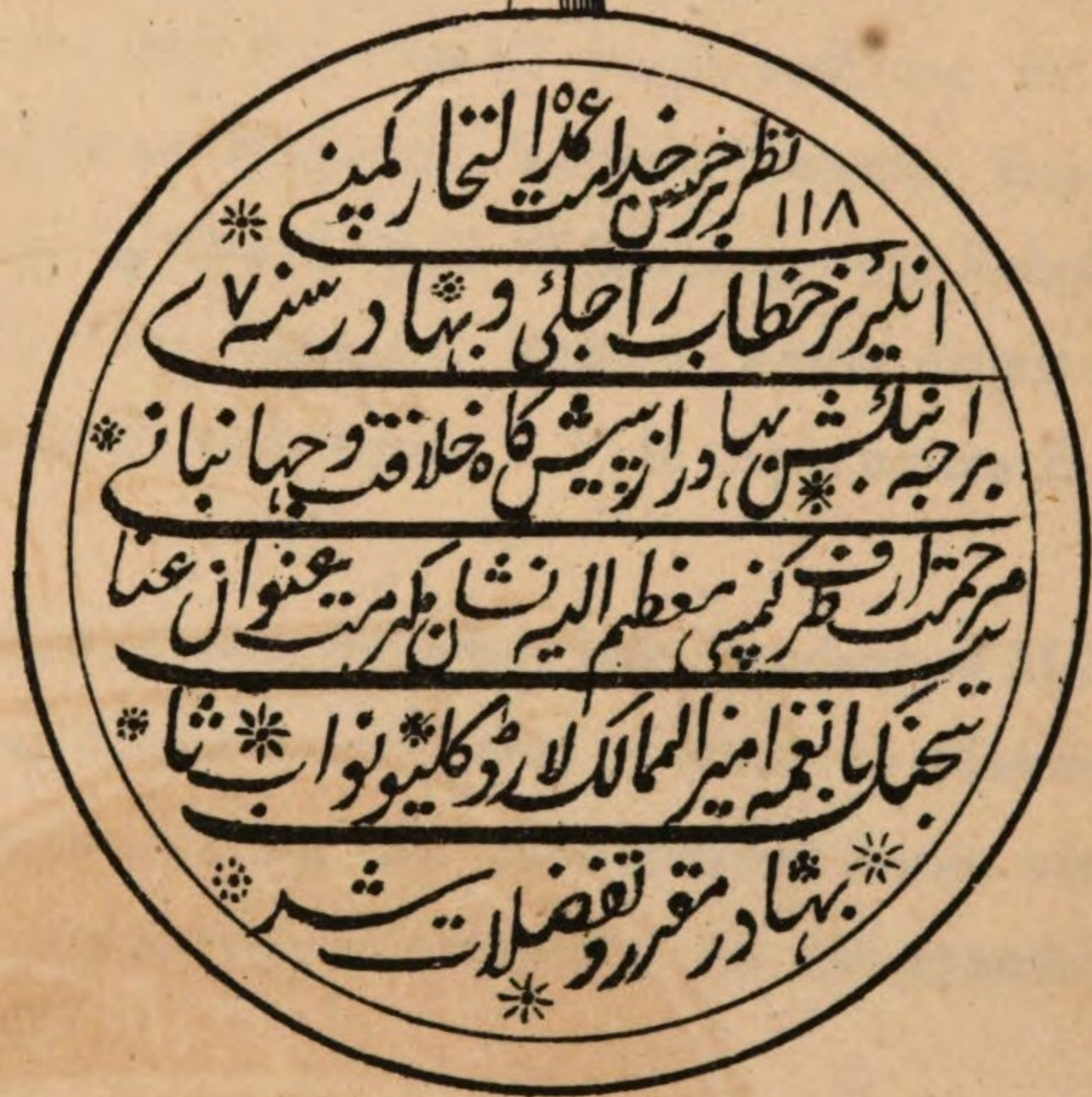
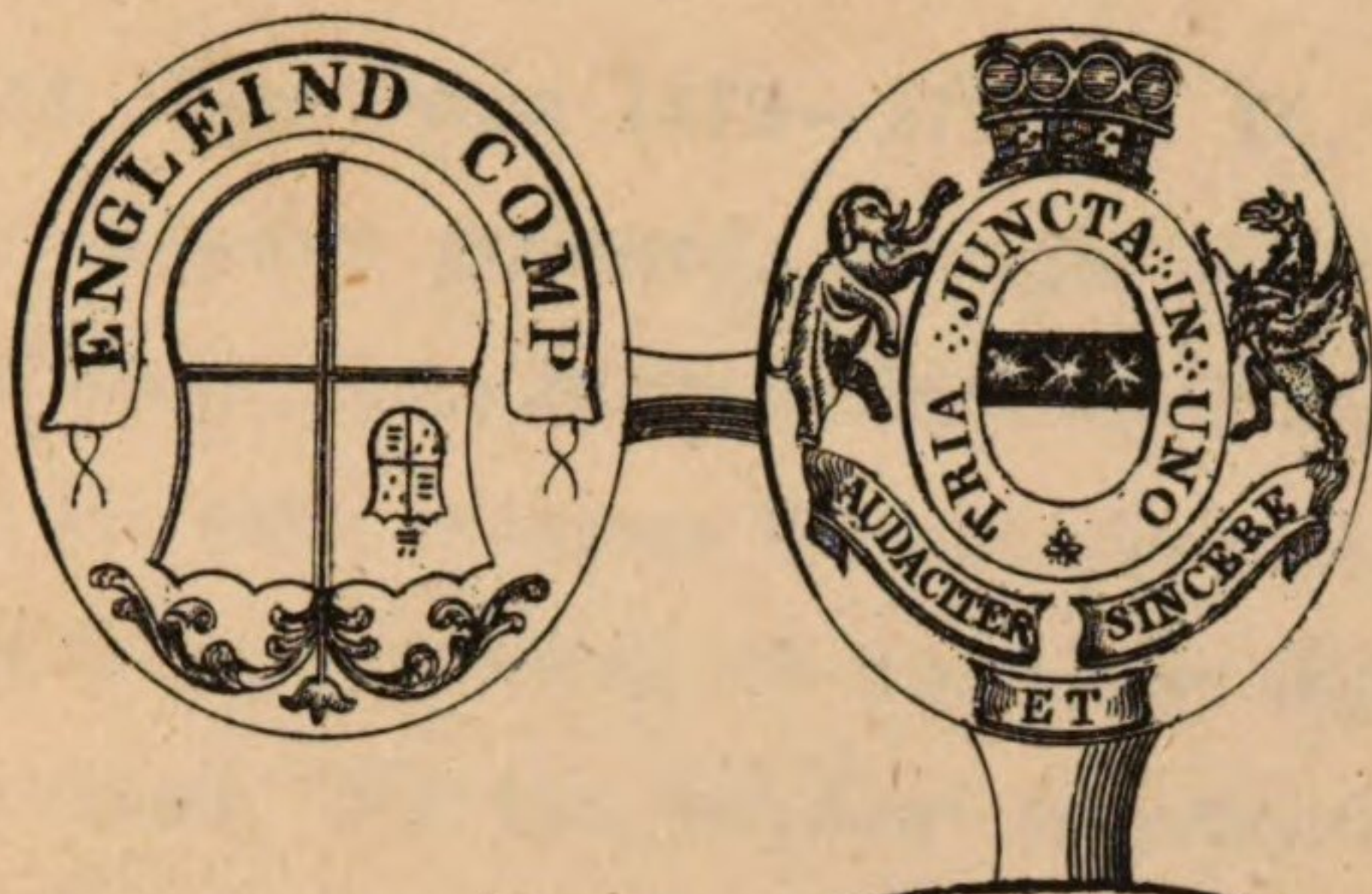
بناجی بنام اصفهان
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Appendix D



Handwritten text, possibly a signature or title, in a cursive script.



NOTE.

IN the Hijree year 1179—1766 A. D., Maharaja Navakrishna Bahadur procured, through his influence at the Court of Delhi, three *Farmans* from the Emperor Shah Alum; two for his elder brothers Ramasundara Deva and Manikya Chandra Deva, conferring on them the dignity of *Mansab* one thousand, with the privilege of retaining five hundred *Sowars* (horsemen) and the title of *Raya*, and one for his friend, the celebrated Maharaja Krishna Chandra, Raja of Nudea, bestowing on him the title of Maharajendra Bahadur, and the insignia, *Ulam* (Banner), *Nakara* (Kettle drum) and *Palki Jhalardar* (state palanquin). Vide Appendices E. F. and I.

Maharaja Iswarachandra Bahadur, late grandson of Maharajendra Krishna Chandra, addressed a letter to Maharaja Navakrishna, acknowledging the distinguished honor which he had been instrumental in procuring for his grandsire. Vide Appendix J.

در این کتاب

در
در

جمعه

Handwritten text in a cursive script, likely a title or heading, written in brown ink.

Handwritten letter 'ح' (Ha) in black ink.

Handwritten text in a cursive script, likely a title or heading, written in black ink.



در کتب خطی
بازرسی شده

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کتابخانه

مجموعه خطی



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GAZETTE.

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A PPENDIX G.

No. 1576.

TO

BABOO RADHAKANT DEB,

SIR,

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT. The Company's Attorney having been requested to give the requisite directions for preparing the oaths of qualification of a Justice of the Peace to be taken by you, I am directed by the Honorable the Governor of Bengal to request that you will attend the Supreme Court of Judicature for the purpose of taking the prescribed oaths above mentioned.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

ROSS P. V. MANGLES.

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Fort William,
the 29th July, 1835. }

APPENDIX H.

No. 7.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE.

Wednesday, July 19, 1837.

Ordered by the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort William 10th July, 1837.

The Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council has been pleased to confer upon Baboo Radhakant Deb of Calcutta the Dignity and Title of Raja and Bahadoor.

W. H. MACNAGHTEN,

Secy. to the Government of India.

APPENDIX A

No. 1111

TO

BAHADOOR RAJAH

AND

The Commission of the Government of India in Council, has been pleased to order upon Bahadur Rajah Bahadur, the title of Raja and Bahadur.

I am,

Your obedient servant

JOSEPH F. MANNING

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal

Fort William,
(the 29th July, 1885.)

APPENDIX B

No. 2

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE

Wednesday, July 19, 1885.

Ordered by the Right Honorable the Governor and Council of India in Council.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Fort William 10th July, 1885.

The Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council has been pleased to confer upon Bahadur Rajah Bahadur, the title of Raja and Bahadur.

W. H. MANNING

Secy. to the Government of India

THE
UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C.



U. S. GOVERNMENT
PRINTING OFFICE





A rapid sketch of the life of Raja Radhakanta Deva Bahadur, with some notices of his ancestors and testimonials of his character and learning by the editors of the Raja's Sabdakalpadruma

Calcutta 1859

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